



PUBLIC DRAFT

Appendix V: Public Engagement

Sub-appendix B, Part 1

Oregon Ridge Park Master Plan

April 2023

Oregon Ridge Park Master Plan
Appendix V: Public Engagement
Subappendix B: Public Meetings, Workshops, and Events
April 2023 Public Draft

Oregon Ridge Park

Planning and Landscape Architecture

Discussion January 6, 2022



Oregon Ridge Park

Planning and Landscape Architecture for Oregon Ridge Park

**PIGGYBACK REQUEST FOR
PROPOSAL NO. P38-160**



LARDNER/KLEIN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, P.C.

in association with:
Environmental Systems Analysis (ESA)
MTFA/Architecture
SIRI, LLC
RK&K Engineers
CHMGS Government Services

OREGON RIDGE PARK – January 6, 2022 Discussion



The Place: over 1,100 acres near Hunt Valley, MD

Three clusters of active recreation

- The Lodge Area
- Nature Center
- Cuba Road



The Lodge at Oregon Ridge Park



Oregon Ridge Park Nature Center



Oregon Ridge Park Cuba Road field



Topographic map of Oregon Ridge Park

The Team

| Master Planning and Landscape Architecture | Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, P.C. | Elisabeth Lardner and Cara Smith |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| | SIRI, LLC | Lisa Siri |
| Economics, Market Viability, Program Assessment | CHMGS | Margaret Bailey |
| Environmental Inventory and Impact, Mitigation | Environmental Systems Analysis | Leslie Wood |
| Architecture | MTFA | Ashley Howell |
| Engineering | RK&K | Matt Thomasson |
| Public Outreach | Chesapeake Conservancy | Gabrielle Roffe |
| | Assedo Consulting | Odessa Phillip |

L/KLA

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OREGON RIDGE PARK – January 6, 2022 Discussion

The Task: How Can Oregon Ridge Better Meet Modern Recreational Needs and Preferences?

Accessibility

- ADA-compliant facilities
- Expand trail network for inclusivity and range of abilities

Emphasize Activities that Focus on Regional Draw

- Hub for gathering/retreat, entertainment, and performance

Enhance the Arts

- Performance Facilities upgrade and enhancement
- Public Art Programming and Public Art
- Repurpose quarry as backdrop for stage/amphitheater/outdoor classroom

Add New Recreational Activities

- Ideas include - mountain roller coaster, ski on plastic, destination playground, swimming pool(s) or water park, disc golf, BMX track, cricket fields, pump track, rectangular fields for informal use, public art sculpture garden, expanded equestrian facilities



Oregon Ridge Park Summer Concert

Image source: blogspot.com

The Task continued

Educational Programming and Facilities

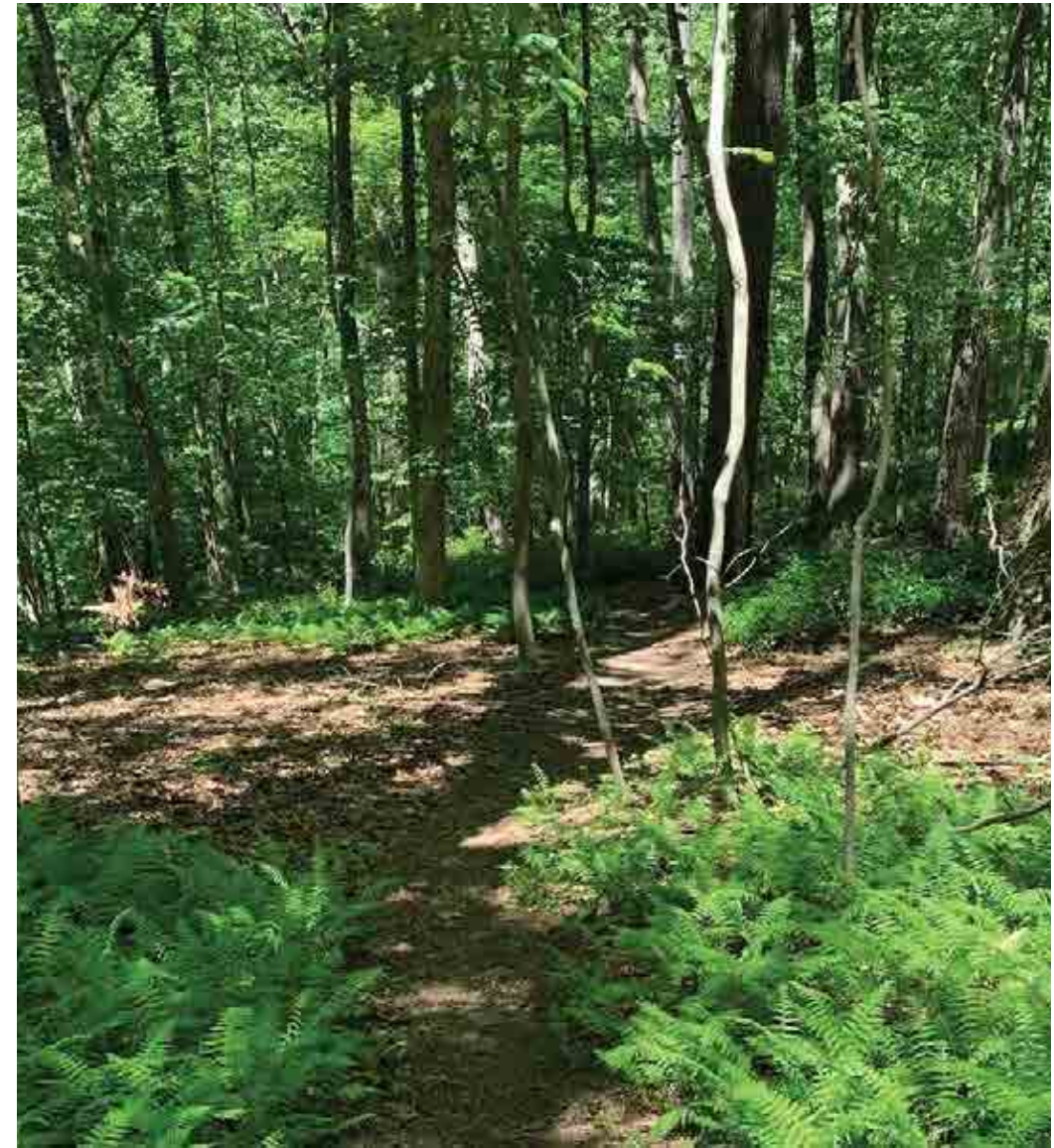
- Renovate or relocate nature center

Facility Improvements

- Upgrade lodge
- Improve stormwater management in parking lots
- Add solar-powered parking shade structures
- Replace faded signs
- Establish dedicated operations and storage maintenance facility
- Add picnic pavilions, flexible spaces for pop-up picnic areas
- Improve restrooms

Natural Resource Management

- Control invasive plants and deer
- Expand educational trail through existing meadow
- Keep trails and access away from best quality streams and forest
- Open views of lake from picnic/play area
- Create meadows along utility corridors



The woodlands in Oregon Ridge Park

Engagement and Outreach

Use Oregon Ridge Park's Historic Association with the Arts to Reach New Audiences

- Work with public artist(s) to engage community and bring attention to the generation of the Master Plan
- Employ programming to open doors to Black, indigenous, and people of color
- Expand on legacy of performance spaces and incorporate performing arts with broader outreach, creative placemaking and public art – draw wider audience and introduce them to the park

Connect with Others to Expand Audience

- Visitor Use Survey – multi-language
- Pop-ups in County Neighborhoods
- Bilingual Summer Ranger in Oregon Ridge Park
- Activator Event – hosted in park or a targeted neighborhood
- Latino Conservation Week Event – Summer 2022



Reimagine Middle Branch, City of Baltimore, MD outreach, Assedo Consulting

Questions?

Thank you.



Former quarry, canoe launch, and small playground at Oregon Ridge Park

January 19, 2022 Kick-off Meeting Notes



Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, P.C.

January 20, 2022

Oregon Ridge Master Plan Pre Kick-off Meeting (Progress Meeting #1)

Webex Attendees

Baltimore County

Roslyn J. Johnson, Director of R&P

Bob F. Smith, Deputy Director, Recreation and Facilities Operations

Cortney Weinstock, Deputy Director of Administration (oversees Oregon Ridge)

Drew Emmer, Chief of Capital Planning and Development

David O'Dell, Landscape Architect and **Project Point of Contact (POC)/Project Lead**

Annie Sanchez, Community Supervisor/Manager of Oregon Ridge Lodge

Benjamin Porter, Chief of Nature, Agriculture and Environmental Centers

L/KLA

Elisabeth Lardner, Team Director

Discussion

Contract Confirmation

- L/KLA has received signed contract and PO; Subcontracts to team members have been issued and are in the process of being returned
- Scott Mitcherling confirmed that the receipt of the signed contract and PO equals a Notice to Proceed (NTP)

Point of Contact

- David O'Dell will serve as the project point of contact for Baltimore County; copy David on correspondence and keep David in the loop on consultant team activities
- Elisabeth Lardner will serve as point of contact for consultant team

Schedule

- 12 month schedule submitted in the Technical Proposal in July 2021 remains intact, with start-up in mid-January, looking at completion in December 2022/January 2023
- LKLA will update the schedule with more detailed information as the project proceeds and share with POC
- Milestones as noted in the schedule remain as entered

Contacts

Kick-off Meeting

- Push back to mid-March/ early April 2022 – hold on-site. Originally scheduled for month 1 of the project (Progress Meeting #2) for staff and consultant team with representatives from multiple departments and park operations meeting on-site and incorporating a site walk is pushed back to month 3 or 4 (March or April) given Covid restrictions and weather

Interviews with Key User Groups and Stakeholders

- OK to start the interviews with user groups and stakeholders; particularly useful to touch base with the Nature Council sooner than later
- David and others will compile a list of who they recommend we hold interviews with – figure all interviews are virtual – with the caveat that the total number of interviews is tied to hours assigned in spread sheet. Suggest we start with a wish list of all, and then if more than budgeted, we collectively identify priorities and winnow the list that way. We may also find some that can be combined for efficiencies.

Staff and Others to Meet – this list will grow!

- Need to be sure we are communicating with Jessica Jeannetta on the nature side of the park as well as Annie Sanchez on the Lodge side of the park
- Need to work with both the Recreation Council and the Nature Council
- Cortney is Deputy Director of Administration which includes the Nature Center.
- Pat McDougal – keeper of institutional knowledge for park since 1989
- Most of the staff on the call are new to their positions within the last five years
- Ben and Jessie – nature / ag/ environmental resources
- Bob Stanhope – first naturalist at the park, came in the 1980's from Massachusetts
- Nature Council [250 members +/-, with active Board, started in the 1980's] – native focused; supported Go Ape proposal; anxious to being natural trail renovation and some relocation, holding on master plan findings; organized in the 1980's 'to save the ridge'; strong ownership of park
- Save Shewan members

General Insights and Guidance

Site Access and Permissions

- David will notify appropriate staff that consultant team will be on site (2 park managers and others)
- Preference is a two-week courtesy notification if consultant team requires access to buildings or other secured areas; however, don't let that courtesy keep work from progressing if unable to provide the requested two-week notification
- David or others will generate some kind of placard or letter that consultant team members can carry on site and leave on the dashboard of their car
- Oregon Ridge Park is open to the public from sunrise to sunset
- Field work in unsecured areas does NOT require prior notification

Plan Adoption and Approvals

- County Council Approval – assume at this point that is the intent (will require ongoing discussions with staff about level of detail to be included in final plan (inadvertent locking in per a design recommendation when something similar but differently configured might work better at time of installation – does plan require reapproval because of this change?))
- County Council adopted a resolution that limits what can be done in parks without specific Council approval

Site Features and History

- Park was home to a Baltimore County Public School project for over 20 years that operated in the park doing archaeology at and near the iron ore furnace, quarry, mining town, cemetery – mid 1800's most extensive era of focus
- Lithic debris that remains in park – if new, created as demonstration, piles will include 1997 copper penny as indicator that the stone debris is recent; obsidian
- If determined that land belonged to specific Native American community – unclear of status, some form of land acknowledgment should be incorporated within the plan
- Native brook trout on site
- Baltimore Checkerspot Butterfly RTE – can it be sighted, please?
- Clusters of RTE orchids on site
- Don't approach dogs off leash (good advice anywhere)
- Area damaged by Gypsy moth, reforestation project is now infested with invasive plants
- Lake at Quarry, closed to swimming 8 or 9 years ago due to a drowning, redeveloped as picnic area and Nature Council does occasional canoe trips
- Separate wildlife management pond on site that has now silted in and grown over
- No active invasive plant management; parks does not have maintenance staff to do this; interest in establishing a Weed Warrior or similar program
- Trail system in parks originated from old 19th century logging roads; some of those roads are too steep to support sustainable natural trails and will benefit from the addition of water bars, switch backs, rerouting
- Painted trees – very controversial act which lead to further oversight by County Council

Rentals and Income

- Pavilion and Lodge rental fees go to General Fund
- Nature Center rentals and pavilion rental fees go to Nature Council

Resources Available

- Species list from old survey
- GIS data
- Many plans available digitally (maybe set up a Teams page to share?)
- Plan developed for park in 1980s

March 15 Introductory Meeting with the Nature Council

Oregon Ridge Park

Project and Consulting Team Introduction

Oregon Ridge Nature Council



Oregon Ridge Park

Planning and Landscape Architecture for Oregon Ridge Park



LARDNER/KLEIN
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in association with:
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OREGON RIDGE MASTER PLAN Nature Council Introduction 03.15.22

The Place

1,100+ acres near Hunt Valley, MD

Three activity clusters

- Nature Center
- Cuba Road
- The Lodge

Park lands outside of activity clusters

- Natural surface trail network
- Rich habitat, potential RTE's
- Chestnut Oak and Tulip Poplar
- Class III trout stream



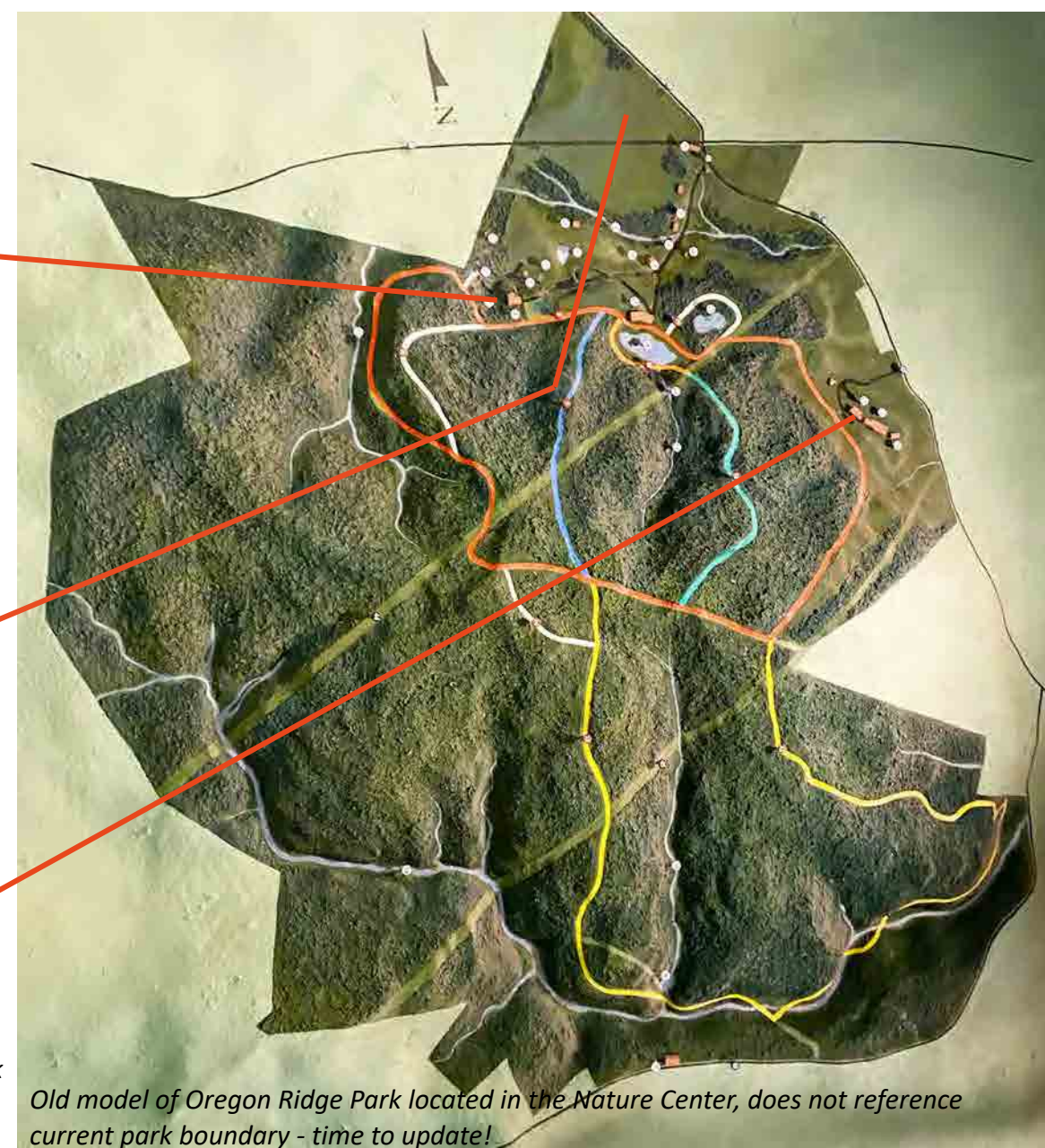
Oregon Ridge Park Nature Center



ORP Cuba Road field



The Lodge at Oregon Ridge Park



Old model of Oregon Ridge Park located in the Nature Center, does not reference current park boundary - time to update!

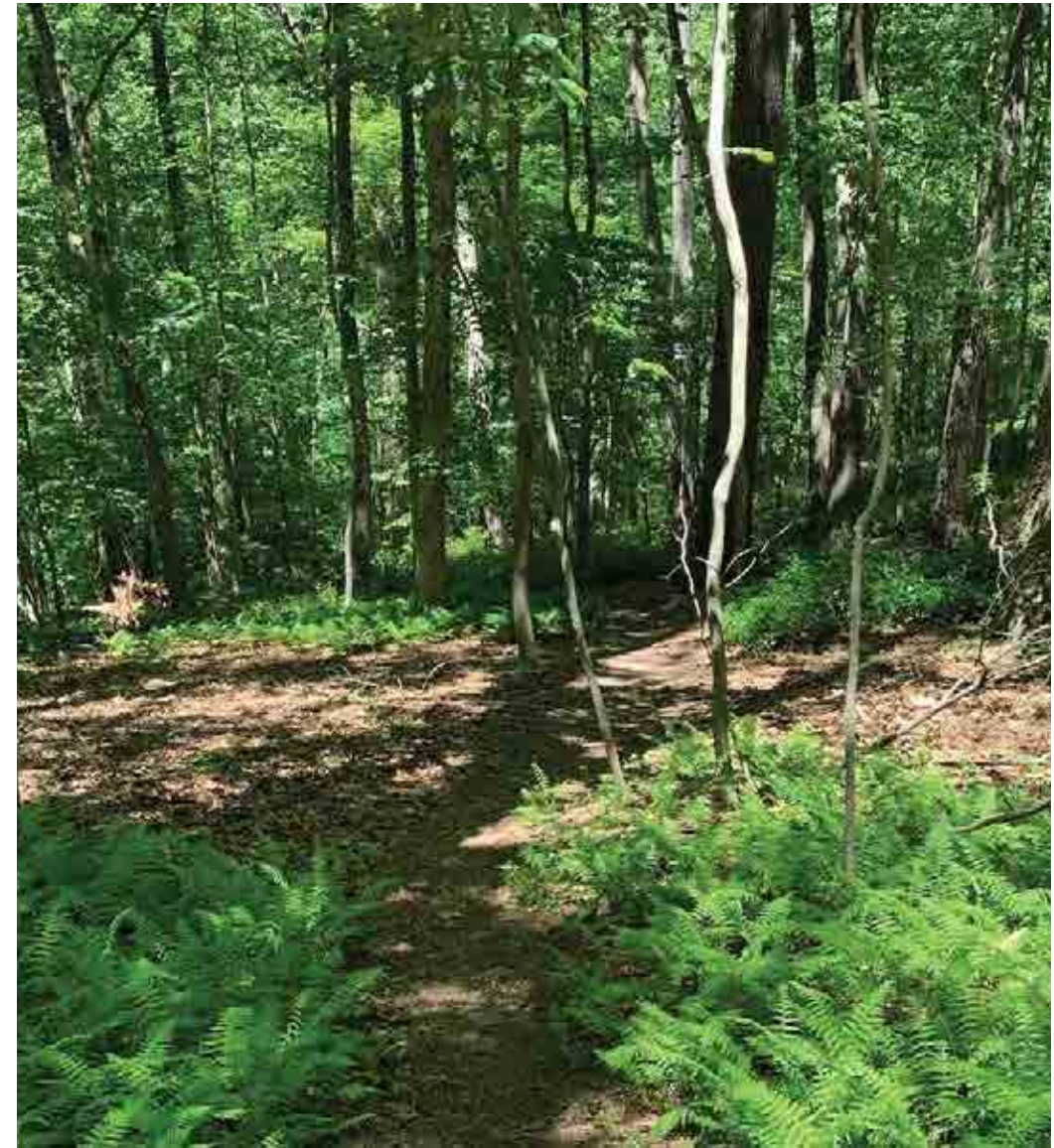


What is a Master Plan?

A Master Plan provides guidance and answers questions that will drive park improvements over the next 20+ years.

A Master Plan lays out a choreography of priorities and funding needs for future improvements.

A Master Plan supports the recreation desires for the residents of Baltimore County.



The woodlands in Oregon Ridge Park

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It Is Time!

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A Good Opportunity to Ask

- What is important?
- What must be cherished and protected in the park?
- What is missing from the park?
- What activities are no longer appropriate?
- What facilities should be enhanced or upgraded or removed?
- How are County demographics shifting and how should the park respond to those changes?
- How does this fit with Countywide adopted plans?



Sycamores in Oregon Ridge Park

Master Planning Schedule



Master Planning Milestones and Public Meetings

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| March 2022 | Interviews and Focus Groups |
| May / June 2022 | Public Surveys/ Pop-ups #1 |
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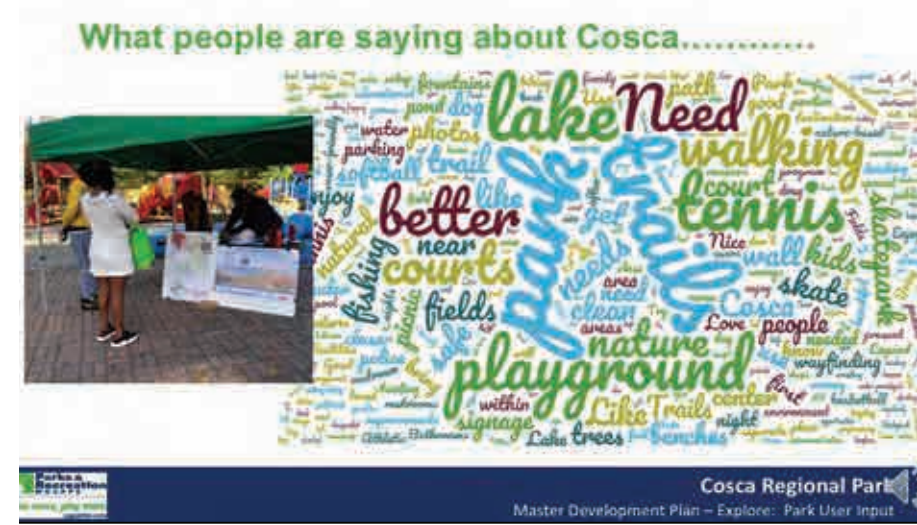
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The Team's Experience

Apply Lessons Learned – Current Project Experience

- **Better resource protection - interior forests identified**, with intent that master plan reconfigure existing Tree Conservation Areas to protect those lands and minimize trail encroachment within them - *Cosca Regional Park, M-NCPPC Prince George's County, MD*
- **Natural surface trail improvements** - *Arlington County, VA Natural Trail Surface Inventory*
- **Repurpose current resources** to better meet new recreational interests and demands - *Watkins Regional Park, M-NCPPC Prince George's County, MD and Cosca Regional Park*
- **Review what is working, what is not, what are revenues and expenses, are services meeting needs of the surrounding communities?** – *Watkins and Cosca Regional Parks*



Word Cloud from Cosca Regional Park Park Pop-ups

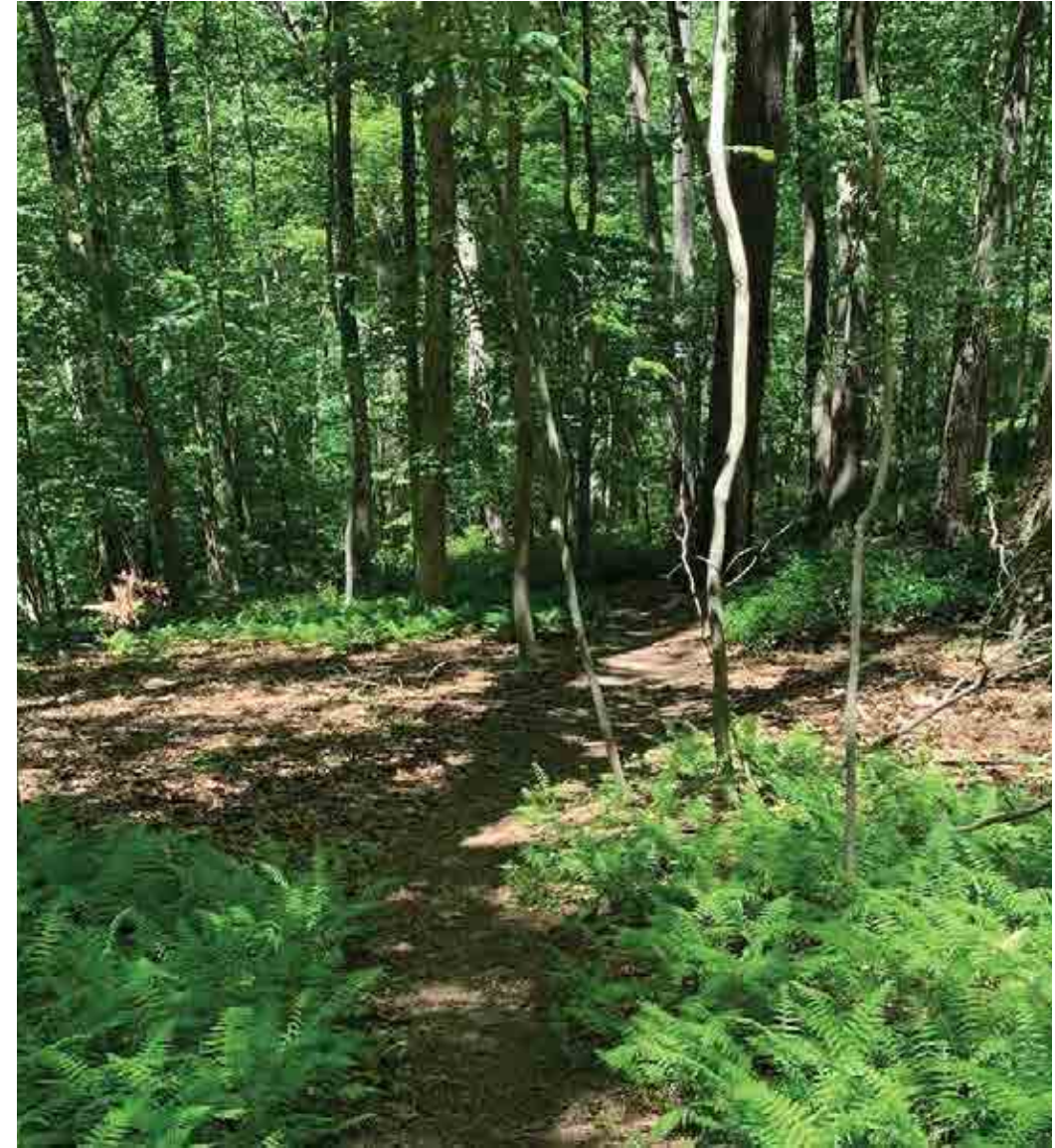


Bowie Trails planning workshop

The Task

How can Oregon Ridge Park

- Protect valued natural resources?
- Engage the broad Baltimore County audience?
- Better meet modern recreational needs and preferences?



The woodlands in Oregon Ridge Park

The ORMP will Address

Natural Resource Management

- Forest Land Protections – identify FID's
- Rare and unusual plants (RTE's) – identify RTE's and other important plant stands
- Streams (Trout Stream) and Vernal Pools

Educational Programming and Facilities

- Oregon Ridge Nature Center

Facility Improvements

- Infrastructure – electric, water, septic, stormwater
- Lodge and concert pavilion
- Circulation and parking
- Picnic Pavilions
- Entry signs
- Restrooms



Baisman Run

As Well As

Accessibility

- ADA-compliant facilities
- Expand trail network for inclusivity and range of abilities

Emphasize Activities that Focus on Regional Draw and Enhance the Arts

- Build upon status as a hub for gathering/retreat, entertainment, and performance
- Upgrade performance facilities
- Public art and programming

Expanded Recreational Activities

- Refresh existing playgrounds
- Role of quarry pond – better access facilities for canoeing?
- Other activities? – TBD through planning process



Oregon Ridge Park Summer Concert

Image source: blogspot.com

Listen and Learn - Engagement and Outreach

Use Oregon Ridge Park's Historic Association with the Arts to Reach New Audiences

- Work with public artist(s) to engage community and bring attention to the generation of the Master Plan
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Connect with Others to Expand Audience

- Visitor Use Survey – multi-language
- Pop-ups in County Neighborhoods and within the park
- Bilingual Summer Ranger in Oregon Ridge Park
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- Latino Conservation Week Event – Summer 2022



Reimagine Middle Branch, City of Baltimore, MD outreach, Assedo Consulting

An aerial photograph of a landscape. The foreground is filled with dense, dark green trees and shrubs. In the middle ground, there are several large, open, light-colored fields, possibly agricultural or cleared land. In the background, more trees and some distant buildings are visible under a clear sky.

Today's Discussion

- Listen to Council members' dreams for the park, the Nature Center, and concerns.
- Introduce Team Members who will be reaching out to the Nature Council with follow up questions.
- Share some initial observations from what we will be researching and documenting.

Looking northeast across Oregon Ridge Park towards Shawan Road and Cuba Road parcel

Revenues, programming, LOS

- Introduce Margaret Bailey, CHMGS and discuss the information and data needed from the Nature Council



Correspondence with DNR and Early Literature Search

ESA contacted MD DNR and received letter to the right

- No rare, threatened and/or endangered plant or animal species known to occur within the 1,034-acre, Oregon Ridge Park

ESA's research

- Park newsletters and other sources
 - Information found - trillium and orchids occur within the park
 - Baisman Run, a headwater tributary of Beaverdam Run, and Use Class III, is naturally-reproducing brook trout stream
- Upcoming ESA fieldwork windows of time (identify ephemerals)
 - April, May, July, September



February 17, 2022

Mr. Will Saffell
Environmental Systems Analysis, Inc.
2141 Priest Bridge Drive
Suite 1
Crofton, MD 21114

RE: Environmental Review for Oregon Ridge Park, Master Plan, Baltimore County, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Saffell:

The Wildlife and Heritage Service has determined that there are no official State or Federal records for listed plant or animal species within the delineated area shown on the map provided. We would like to point out, however, that our remote analysis suggests that the forested area on this property contains Forest Interior Dwelling Bird habitat. Populations of many bird species which depend on this type of forested habitat are declining in Maryland and throughout the eastern United States. Interested landowners can contact us for further voluntary guidelines to help conserve this important habitat.

Please be sure to let us know if the limits of proposed disturbance or overall site boundaries change and we will provide you with an updated evaluation. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to review this project. If you should have any further questions regarding this information, please contact me at lori.byrne@maryland.gov or at (410) 260-8573.

Sincerely,

Lori A. Byrne,
Environmental Review Coordinator
Wildlife and Heritage Service
MD Dept. of Natural Resources

ER# 2022.0021.ba

Tawes State Office Building – 580 Taylor Avenue – Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-260-8DNR or toll free in Maryland 877-620-8DNR – dnr.maryland.gov – TTY Users Call via the Maryland Relay

Forest Cover Existing Resources

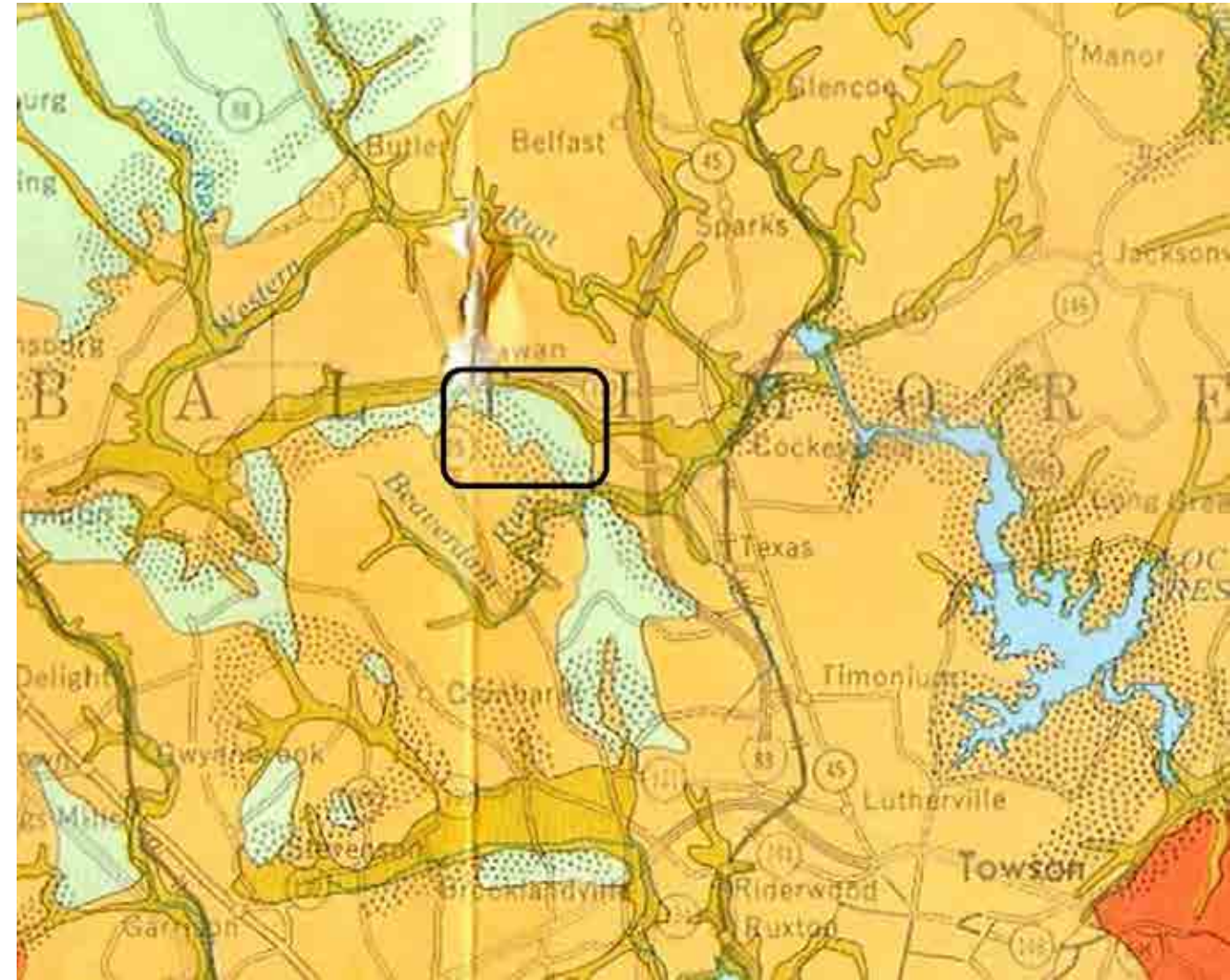
Oregon Ridge separates the Chestnut Oak and Oregon Branch drainage basin from the Tulip Poplar and Baisman Run drainage basins. The park has three basic forest types:

- ***Sycamore-Green Ash-Boxelder-Silver Maple Forest Association*** (Piedmont Floodplain, olive green color)
- ***Chestnut Oak Forest Association*** covers (mist green color) largest central area of the park
- ***Tulip Poplar Association*** (yellow color)

Black dots denote large areas of contiguous, interior, uninterrupted woodlands.

West of the nature center is what looks like an ***“eat-out disturbance”*** within the chestnut oak forest type, disturbance ***may be a concentrated invasives patch that is being “managed”***.

Fourth forest type is a disturbed invasives plot.

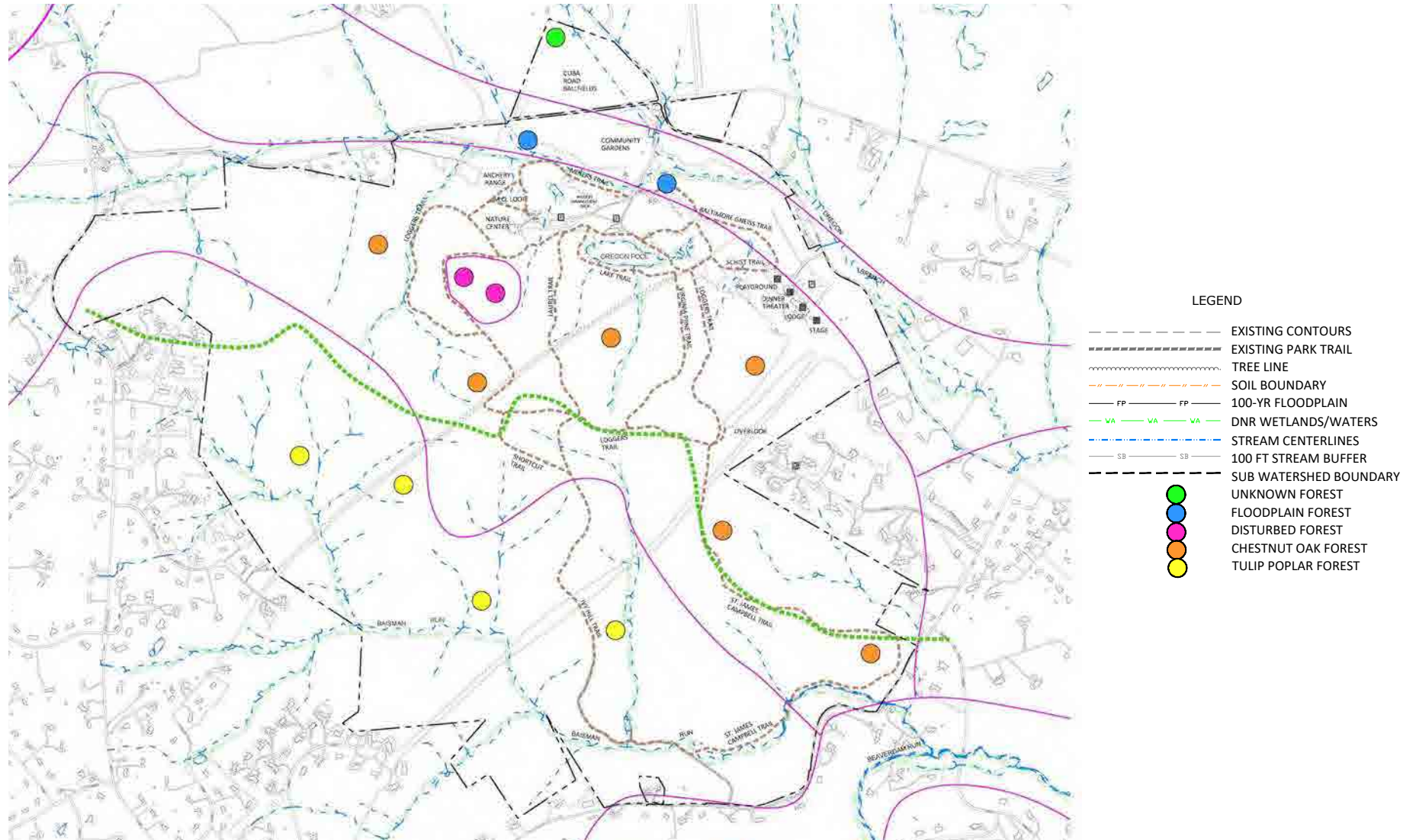


Brush, Lenk & Smith, *Vegetation Map of Maryland*

ESA's Initial Findings – Forest Cover

- Forest Stand types will be cross referenced to MD DNR Natural Heritage Program, *Natural Communities of Maryland*
- Map shows preliminary findings, will be field checked

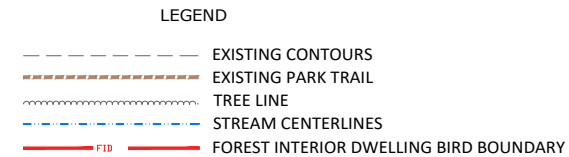
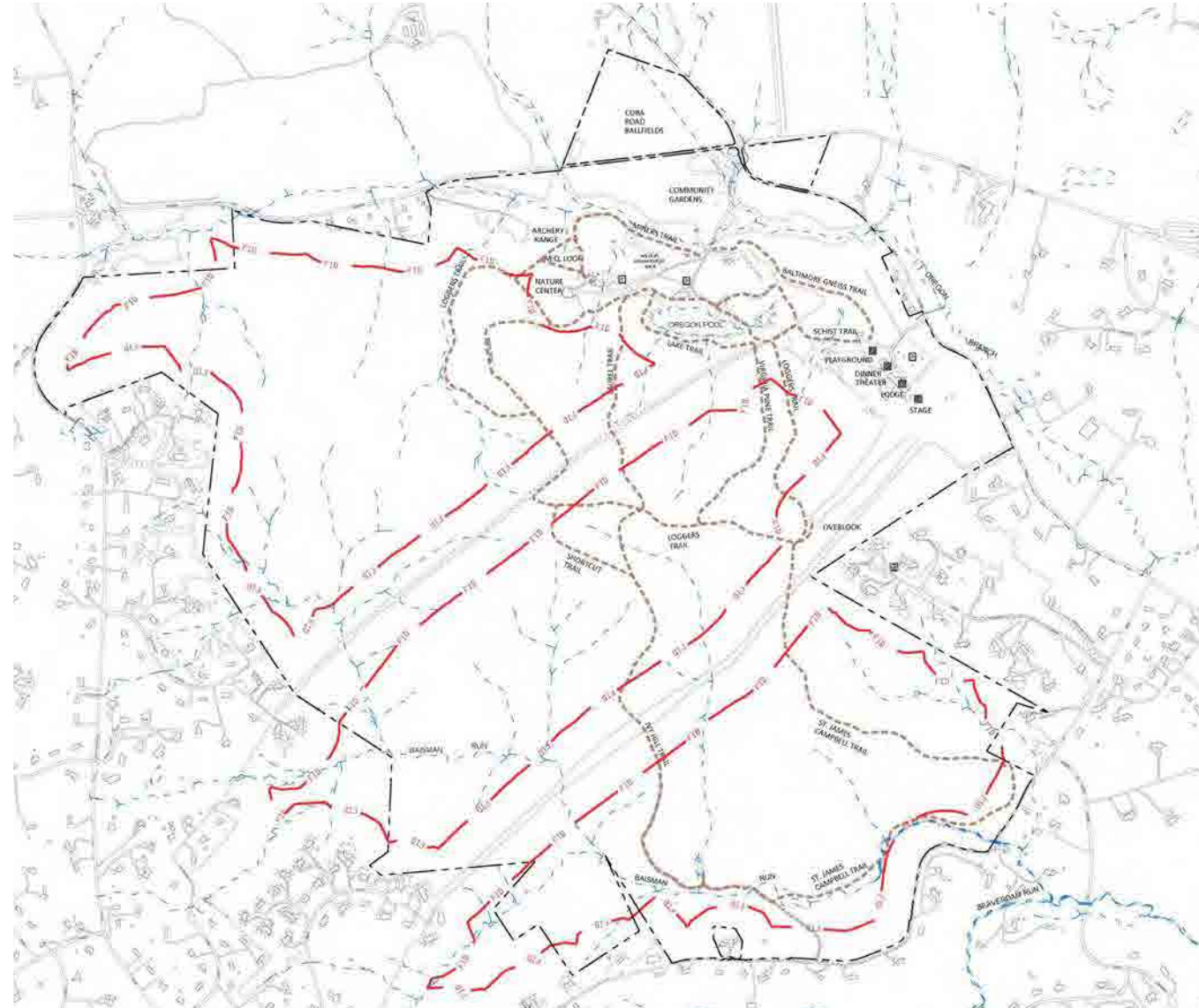
Source: 2021 Baltimore County GIS data



ESA's Initial Findings – Forest Interiors

Map Overlays To Come

- Wetlands and Waters
Regulatory
Classification
(i.e., riverine intermittent, riverine perennial, forested wetlands, emergent herbaceous wetlands and vernal pools)
- Soils
Hydric (wetland) soils, highly erodible soils, and prime agricultural soils
- Steep Slopes
15 to 25 % slopes and 25 % and greater slopes
- Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species
Uncommon and watchlist plant and animal species, and natural community types



Source: 2021 Baltimore County GIS data

Other Explorations to Come



Questions?

Thank you.



Former quarry, canoe launch, and small playground at Oregon Ridge Park

Introductory Public Meeting, March 15, 2022

Oregon Ridge Master Plan

Public Information Meeting



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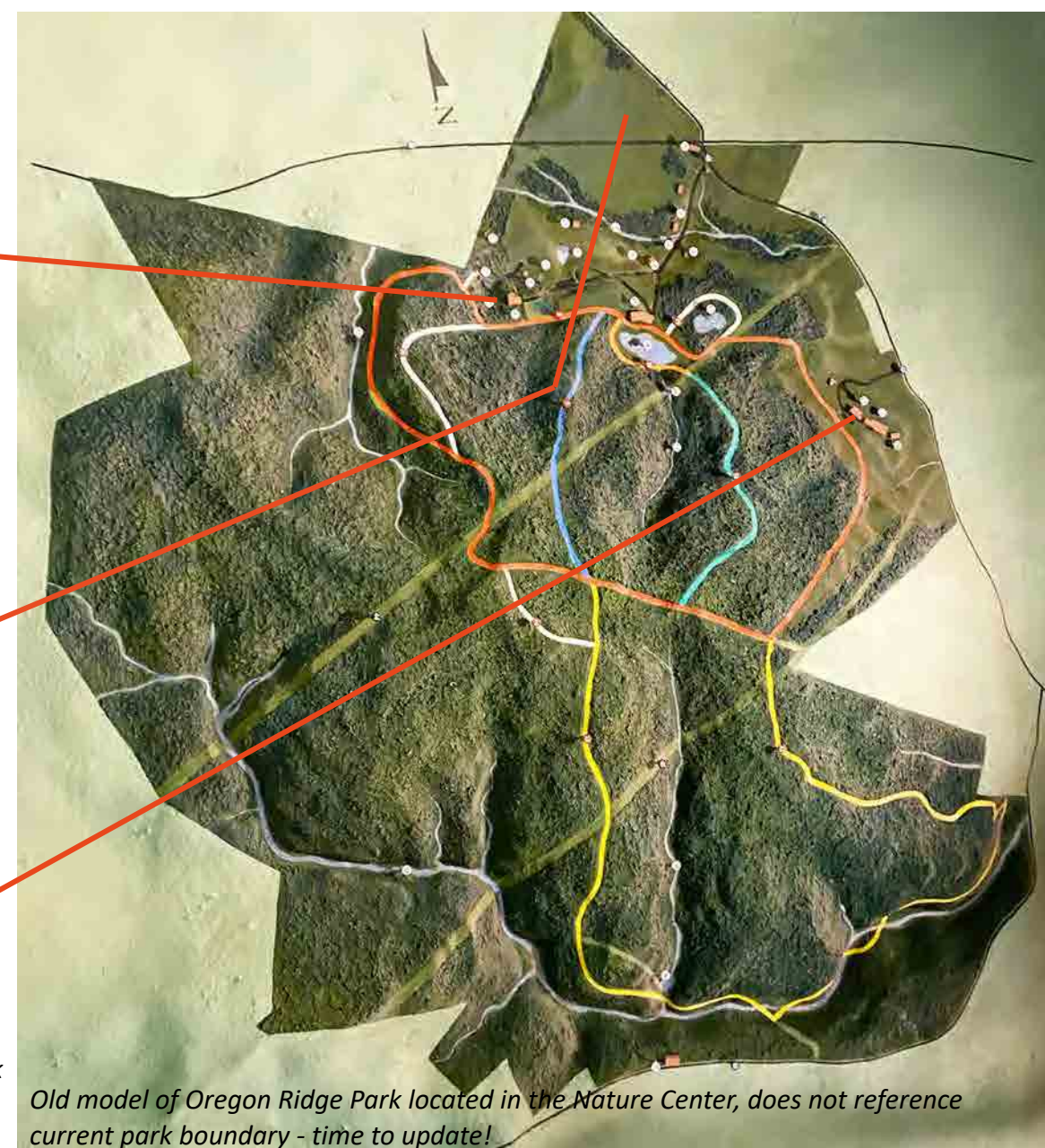
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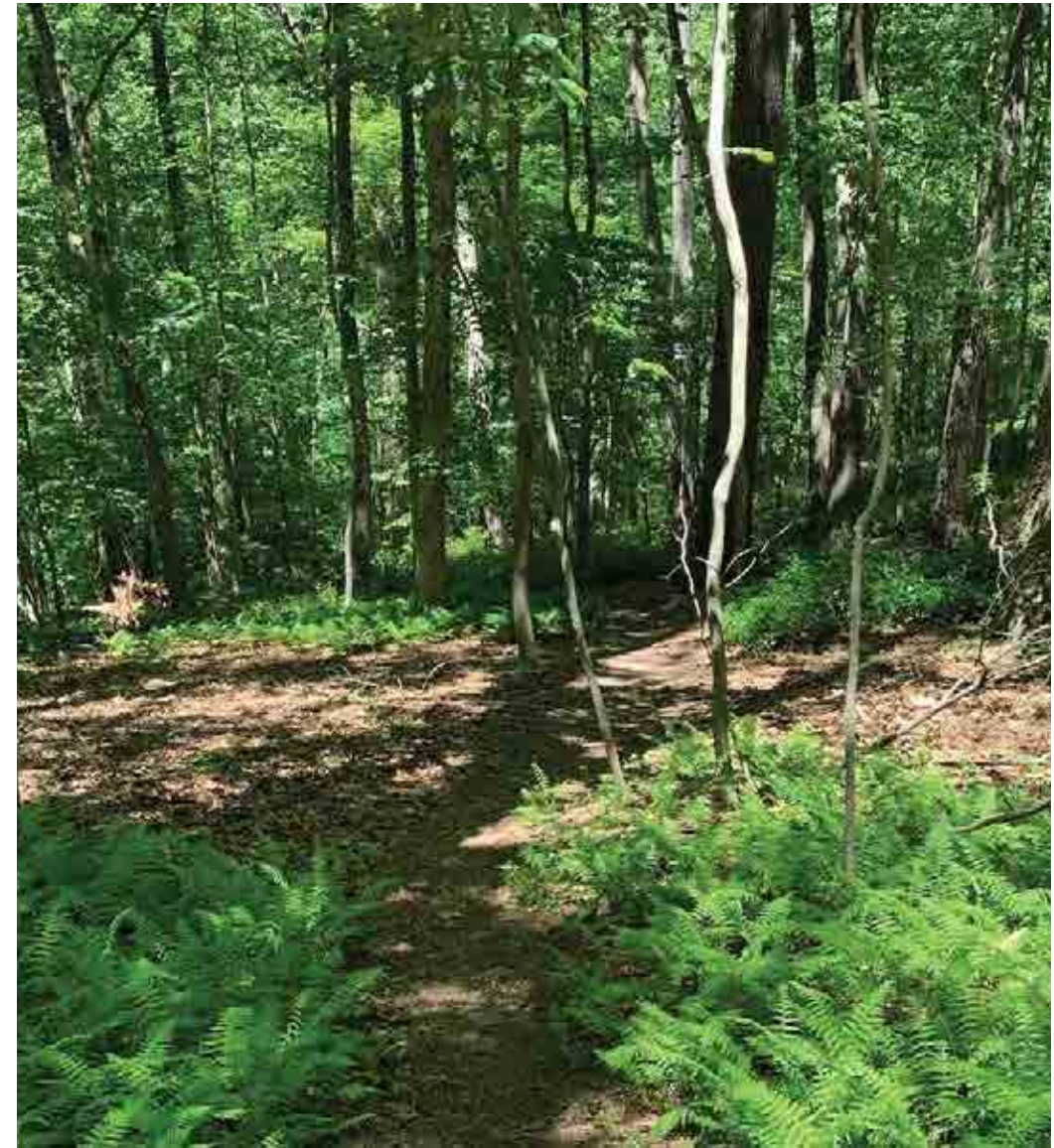


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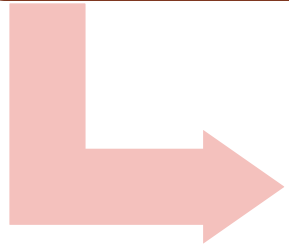
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Master Planning Schedule



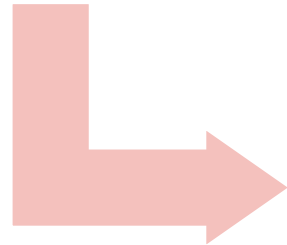
SPRING / SUMMER 2022

- Site Conditions – natural and built
- Recreational Program Assessment/ LOS Standards
- Park User Input



SPRING / SUMMER 2022

- What should Oregon Ridge offer?



SUMMER / FALL 2022

- Recommendations in text and drawings for park enhancements and improvements to be made over the next twenty years

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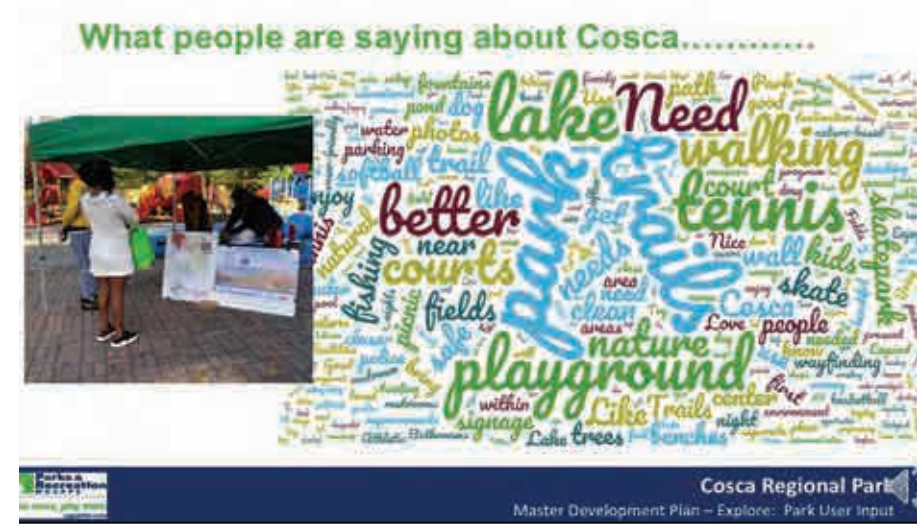
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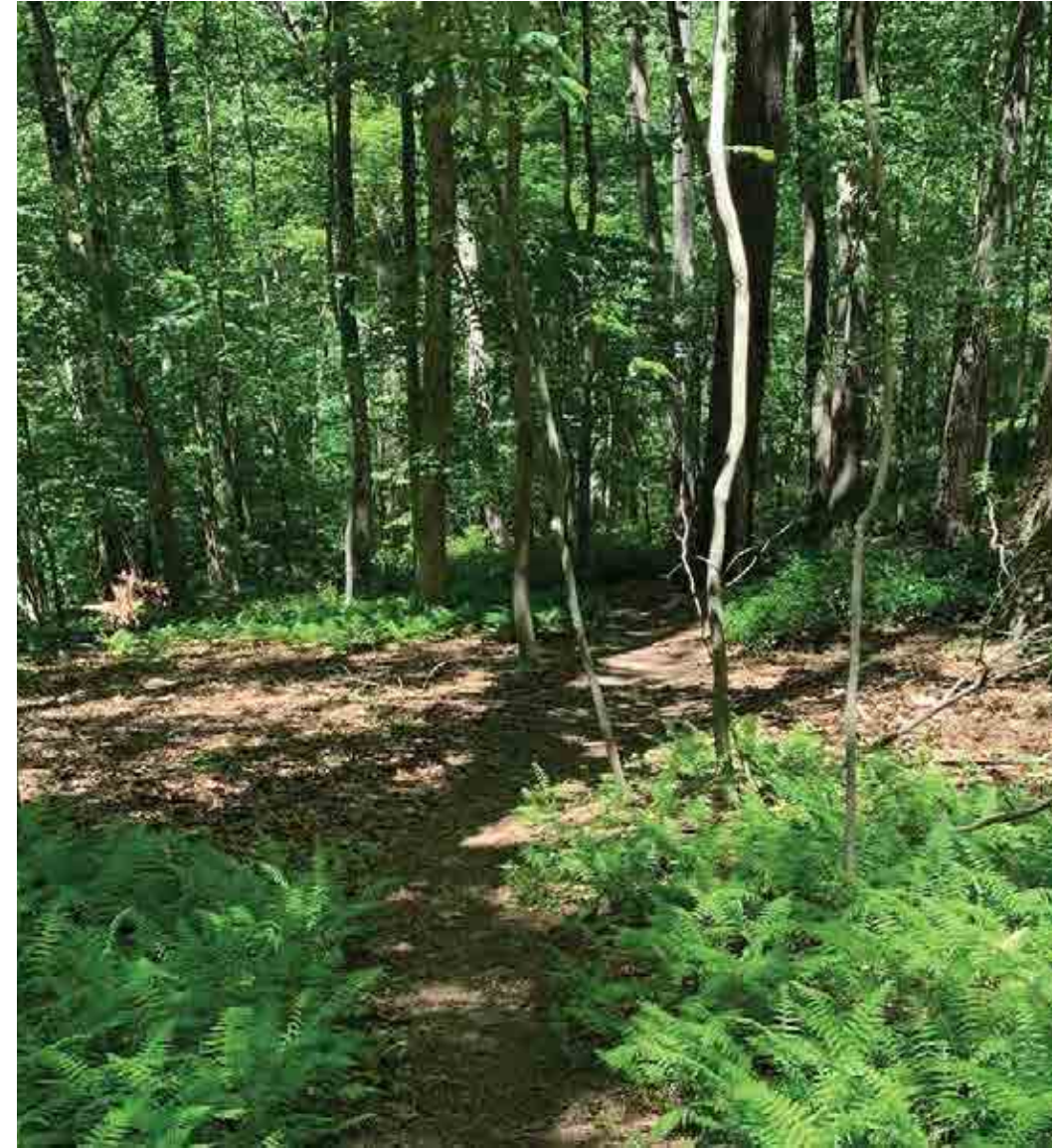


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Thank you.

For more information:

Visit the Project webpage

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/recreation/countyparks/most-popular/oregonridgelodge/master-plan.html>

Contact:

oregonridgemasterplan@baltimorecountymd.gov

Former quarry, canoe launch, and small playground at Oregon Ridge Park



Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, P.C.

Oregon Ridge Park Master Plan Public Meeting #2

Final with edits ppt presentation script

061422

1. Thanks for your interest and attending this evening's presentation, or for reviewing this presentation on the project webpage. This is the second public meeting of the master planning process. Tonight, we will share our initial research and site findings. We welcome corrections, new insights, or other sources of data that you share.
2. We are a team; I am the team leader and am supported by a group of talented professionals and their firms. Our team is composed of Lardner/Klein, responsible for master planning and landscape architecture along SIRI, LLC. Other team members include CHMGS who has been working with staff to pull data to better understand current use patterns of the park, looking at recreation trends and needs locally, regionally, and nationally, and reviewing the demographics of the surrounding area in increments of drive distances to the park. Environmental Systems Analysis has been in the field this spring. They have walked the park with some of you and are responsible for many of the photographs in this presentation. MTFA is providing architectural support and has developed measured drawings of several of the existing park buildings and performed a high level visual assessment of building conditions. RK&K engineers is focused on addressing infrastructure capacity questions – shorthand is potties and parking. Two additional firms are expanding the project's public engagement. Chesapeake Conservancy is hosting an event on July 17 at the Nature Center pavilion in celebration of Latino Conservation week. Also, through Chesapeake Conservancy, the park will have a Spanish speaking ranger this summer. Assedo Consulting will host a park activity on October 1 in conjunction with our next public meeting.
3. Oregon Ridge Park is a magnificent place, over 1,100 acres in size – this stunning photograph speaks to the diversity and richness of the park's forest canopy. The different shades of greens are different forest types.
4. A refresher on what a master plan is and is not. A master plan is not a set of construction drawings. A master plan takes a high level look at identifying needed park improvements, identifies an order of magnitude cost and orchestrates in what order improvements should be implemented. The timeframe for this plan is 20 years. When you visit Oregon Ridge Park in 2042, what should your experience entail? To be successful, this plan must reflect your dreams and desires. Thanks again for attending and indicating your interest and sharing your passion for this park!

5. An overview of the master planning schedule. We are in the Explore phase and this summer will move to the Imagine phase. We will wrap up the final plan in late fall 2022 and early winter 2023.
6. An updated schedule of project milestones and a reminder of how to get and remain engaged in the process. We are at Public Meeting #2; the Latino Conservation Week event is July 17. We will post a survey and host a park pop up in mid to late summer. Just what is a pop up? Expect to see us in the park this summer and fall. We want to hear from the park's casual users and encourage them to share their ideas and concerns for the park's future. We will do a repeat of the pop up in the fall, sharing a draft vision and program ideas ahead of sharing alternative concept master plans with you on October 1.
7. Oregon Ridge Park is known for three clusters of organized activities as seen on this diagram – the Lodge area, the Nature Center area, and the softball fields at Cuba Road. The majority of the 1100 plus acres are accessed by an extensive trail network, covered by a number of different vegetative communities from recently logged forest to extensive oak forested lands, with 30 plus acres of meadow, a vast open lawn area, extensive utility corridors slicing through the park, and rich water resources including a Class III trout stream in the southern side of the park and 3 ponds. The former Ivy Hill Forest Preserve was located in this area of the park and the SKI lodge, referred to as The Lodge today in this area of the park. This mix of actively developed park area and extensive natural areas will shape the recommendations for master plan concepts.
8. The park's relatively recent origins include the historic mining operation and community, the Ivy Hill Forest, and the SKI Lodge. While times and the park have changed, Oregon Ridge Park continues to provide a respite and recreational resource for Baltimore County residents. A brochure from the 1960's states: *"For you who wish to leave behind the tensions of the busy world for a few hours, Ivy Hill Forest provides a quite haven. For active business executive, the professional man, the housewife....who wants a complete change of scene, for anyone who wants a breath of truly fresh air, and tranquility Ivy Hill Forest is an inviting wilderness."*
9. The master plan gives us all a chance to take a fresh look at how the park is used, how it is navigated, and how it is enhanced. The plan also provides the opportunity for us to think about how better to engage the public in the use of the park through maps and guides. What is the best way to display the assets of the park? The trail map on the right flips the traditional north is towards the top of the page convention. Upcoming directions from the master plan will include recommendations for how it displays its maps (which way goes north) to better signage and wayfinding in the park.
10. This portion of the presentation focuses on the master planning team's findings to date. We have been in the field, digging through old files, and speaking and listening to users and lovers of the park. Our work is not complete. We are sharing what we have found and

synthesized to date. Later this summer summary documents of our findings will be posted on the project web page for your review and comments. This stage of the planning process takes time, we are pulling together many disparate threads from which to base solid recommendations for park enhancements, protections, and improvements over the next 20 years.

Our work has focused on three broad categories of investigation – site conditions; recreational use assessment; and public engagement.

First, a review of our Natural Site Conditions findings to date. As illustrated in this photo, the park has array of vegetative community associations – this image displays four found along the utility corridor, related to soils, aspect, drainage, and slope.

11. Our team drew from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources materials – this map is a compilation of three layers of data: the park is large hub in the Green Infrastructure Plan; the entire park south of Shawan Road is classified as Tier 4 in the biodiversity conservation network; and a portion of Baisman Run is the best of the best, as you all know and have shared with us.
12. This park has extensive land cover of intact hardwood forested lands that provide habitat for forest interior dwelling birds to successfully breed. These swaths conducive to Forest Interior Dwelling Birds or FIDS as they are known are shown on this map with yellow hatched lines (ESA's field work findings) and DNR's data set (green tone).
13. An important question - why focus on large swaths of forested lands? DNR's bird list, highlighted on the left of the image is highlighted with data from eBird. Both the yellow and green highlights birds that are found in the park, but the yellow highlights birds that may also breed in the park. A couple of forest interior dwelling birds observed in the park include – the Louisiana waterthrush on the upper left and the pileated woodpecker on the lower right. Also of value are the open meadows and old fields, the robust bluebird house network and the number of bluebird fledges is a testament to the value of that land cover.
14. ESA also identified vegetation and natural communities throughout the park. This diagram is a general grouping and overview of what was documented. The light green pattern on the diagram is the logged over tulip poplar forest, the dark green at the bottom the mixed oak forest. Meadow is near the Nature Center along Shawan Road, and the gypsy moth salvage cut which has an interpretive sign describing its history is shown in the yellow hatch symbol.
15. Images of those same plant communities, taken by ESA during their field work – note the three different tulip poplar communities on the lower right, and a shout out thanks to Charlie Davis for the picture of the younger tulip poplar forest.
16. These are photos ESA took during their spring fieldwork, the native azalea and honeysuckle

are desired park inhabitants, the microstegium and lesser celandine are not so welcomed as they are very invasive and crowd out other plants and native species.

17. The team also looked at the park's hydrology – there are two main stems: Baisman Run and Oregon Branch. There are groundwater seeps or springs at the head of most tributaries. These provide cool, 55 degree water which support Baisman's trout and rosieside dace population. The seepage swamps are dominated by skunk cabbage.
18. Images from spring fieldwork of the groundwater spring with a rock roof near Baisman Run on the far right.
19. Another image looking at the forest cover towards the Lodge now moves us to the discussion of our initial findings related to the Built Site Conditions.
20. Starting with the Nature Center, the team, led by MTFA, did a visual assessment of existing buildings, looking at windows, doors, siding, roof, interior spaces, restrooms, and ADA accessibility. Each building element was ranked on a metric of Excellent/Good/Fair/Poor and from that was drawn a singular overall condition. A reminder, this is an assessment of the physical building, not the program within the building. The Nature Center, built in 1983, is a cherished facility, a bit invisible from its entry, but with a stunning view out its windows. The overall condition of the nature center is considered to be fair/poor.
21. A high level summary of needs identified is listed, these will be more detailed in the posted summary of findings. Bottom line, this is such a successful facility it needs more space for educational activities, for storage, and for animal care. The building also needs AC for summer comfort, some building repair, and improvements to make the facility ADA compliant. MTFA has completed measured drawings of the facility – the next step in this process will be to take the results of this field work and begin to talk about alternatives – should the center be renovated and stay where it is currently, should it be relocated, if it is expanded, for what and how?
22. A similar evaluation and set of measured drawings was generated for the Lodge. Built in 1964 as a ski lodge, it has a multi-purpose room and two meeting rooms. The overall condition for the Building is Fair.
23. Again, a high level summary of needs includes AC, building repair, improved ADA compliance and better support for the functions that take place within the lodge.
24. The concert shell is an important asset in this park, unusual for this type of facility to be available within a county park. Although its overall condition is good, it does have needs. The building and its access is not ADA compliant; the plywood flooring does not age well nor support much weight.
25. The Dinner Theater. Built in 1966, its overall condition is considered to be poor. There is

severe deterioration of the concrete masonry in some places, its interior is dated and not ADA compliant and the building has multiple incidents of water damage.

26. We performed a parallel assessment of many of the outdoor facilities, including the playgrounds, picnic pavilions, and restrooms. We used the same visual metric as used for buildings. The large playground by the Lodge is in poor to fair condition. The good news is it is in the queue to be replaced, the master plan news is where should it go – stay where it is, be relocated? Again, a topic for discussion this fall in the evaluation of the master plan alternatives.
27. The playground at the Nature Center benefits from a tree canopy that provides shade, and its overall condition is good.
28. Picnic pavilions were also visually inspected, their overall condition is good. Problems were identified, primarily related to parking shortages and ADA compliance.
29. A similar review of informal picnic areas was completed, and again their overall condition was assessed as good, and ADA compliance issues were identified.
30. Restrooms.....Overall condition for the three permanent freestanding restrooms is poor. There are public restrooms inside the Lodge and the Nature Center, each was included in that building's review.
31. Temporary restrooms, known as port-a-potties. Overall good condition, but not a great solution to the need for potties in the park.
32. Athletic fields and exercise equipment, there are two softball fields across Shawan referred to as the Cuba Road Fields; while the fields are in good condition, the exercise equipment is tired and in poor condition
33. Infrastructure – the things the govern what can be placed in the park, expanded, or enhanced.

First, sewer and water. Without adequate sewer and water facilities, park use is limited to those who live nearby. The current sewer and water system is provided through septic and wells, with most of the systems installed between the 1960s and late 1980s. Public sewer and water are not an option. The team has looked at this issue with County staff and believe there are some viable options to replace aging septic facilities and add additional septic capacity. Similarly, water supply should not be an issue.

34. Second infrastructure topic is traffic – how do people get to the park. Most park visitors arrive by car, the light rail is about a 1 and ½ miles away. RK&K looked at the current traffic patterns, intersection capacities, and the potential impact on intersection traffic from additional activities should any current activities be proposed for expansion (like the Nature

Center) or added. It appears traffic will not be an issue.

The internal park vehicular circulation pattern – how you enter the park and how you drive within the park and how you exit the park does warrant a closer look. Bridges flood, there are poor sightlines at the Lodge exit, could a one way loop improve circulation? Again, examples of the options and choices we will present in the concept alternatives and ask for your thoughts on October 1.

35. Third infrastructure item is parking – we don't propose to park the park, but current parking in the park is inadequate for the current level of activities within the park. Should parking be expanded, and if so to what extent and where? Another topic to review in October, the concept alternatives will present several different scenarios to address quantity, surfacing, and locations for parking.
36. Trails – they are loved and are being worn down to nubbins. This has been exacerbated during the pandemic. While the master plan does not include a trail assessment, it will include recommendations for trail improvements, connectivity, and ADA accessibility.
37. The master plan will document trail data, starting with the formal County GIS data base, as shown here. We all know that what is on this map does not really reflect all the many trails and paths throughout the park.
38. A separate layer of data will be compiled of current and past proposals for trail improvements. The master plan, again in the concept alternatives phase, may make recommendations for trail removal to better protect high quality forest lands, for multi-use trails in some areas of the park, or for paved multi-modal trails along the park's perimeter.
39. In addition to physical site conditions assessment, our team is performing a recreational program assessment and level of service metric – how does this park compare in its offerings and attendance and benchmark with other similarly sized regional parks?
40. Thanks to amazing support from staff, CHMGS has pulled together a compilation of current program and activity users. Interestingly, recorded data shows that sides of the park – the Nature Center and the Lodge receive a similar number of attendees. We understand that these are tracked attendees – permitted activities or formal program attendance numbers. A weakness in this data is the lack of information on the more informal park user – families visiting the playgrounds, people walking or running the trails. We want to better understand how these more informal uses occur in the park and their frequency. This is one of the reasons we will be holding informal park pop ups later this summer and fall.
41. Tracking zip codes from permit holders, our team was able to trace formal users on the Lodge side pavilion rentals – the majority of users come from within a 15 minute drive of the park and over 70 percent are identified as profit (on the rental form) which indicates the

probability the renter is say a corporate picnic host or similar.

42. Alternatively, the data flips on the Lodge rental side, where 90 percent of the rentals are identified as non-profit, think weddings and birthday parties and the renters come from a bit farther away for lodge rentals.
43. Using data available on the Nature Center side, zip codes were tracked for the Nature Council membership. Approximately one third of the members are outside the 15 minute drive time to the park.
44. We also looked at three data rings of proximity to the park to better understand the local demographics. As we understand most visitors access the park by vehicles, we looked at the demographics of who lives within a drive time of under 15 minutes, a drive time of 15-30 minutes, and a drive time of 30 -60 minutes.

As an example of how this data can inform us and recommendations for future park enhancements, take a look at the language breakout. Within that 15 minute drive time donut around the park, ESRI data shows that the majority of residents within this area are English only speakers, and there is a greater concentration of Indo European (sampling of ESRI's definition includes French, Italian, Greek, Serbo-Croatian, Persian, Urdu, Romanian) and Asian Pacific languages (includes Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Turkish, Thai) than Spanish speakers.

45. Within the 15 – 30 minute drive donut, the majority of residents within this are English only speakers, but Spanish speaker numbers are comparable to those of Indo-European speakers.
 - **Other Indo-European languages** – Includes French (incl. Cajun), Haitian creole, Italian, Portuguese, German, Yiddish, Pennsylvania Dutch, Greek, Russian, Polish, Serbo-Croatian, Ukrainian, Armenian, Persian (incl. Farsi, Dari), Gujarati, Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi, Bengali, Nepali, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, Albanian, Lithuanian, Pashto, Romanian, Swedish
 - **Asian and Pacific Islander languages** – Includes Chinese (incl. Mandarin, Cantonese), Japanese, Korean, Hmong, Vietnamese, Khmer, Thai, Lao, Burmese, Tibetan, Turkish, Tagalog (incl. Filipino), Ilocano, Samoan, Hawaiian, Cebuano (Bisayan), Iloko (Ilocano), Samoan, Indonesian.
46. Within the 30 – 60 minute drive, the majority of residents dominant language is English only, but the numbers of Spanish speakers expand beyond Indo-European and Asian Pacific speakers.
47. Park Users are our third broad category to report. Our schedule includes multiple points of public outreach and opportunities to receive your input. Many of you have shared your time and thoughts with us to date. We welcome your ideas, concerns, dreams, and hopes.

Please continue to share with us.

48. A thank you to those of you who have already emailed us, shared materials, and walked the park with us. We are most thankful. The list is long and includes many Baltimore County staff members in addition to those of you listed here. We will keep reaching out to people, please continue to share materials, concerns, and your dreams for the park's next twenty years.
49. To date, we have completed about 90% of our first batch of interviews. Drawing from notes taken during those conversations, this word cloud gives one overall portrayal of the communities' concerns and interests in this park – the larger the word, the more times we heard it. Fittingly, park takes the prize, followed by nature, trail, center, event, field, and then pavilion, parking, program, lodge...
50. So, what. Why do all of this work? We have taken this long to come back to you because while much of this material that we touched on this evening is available, it was not all collected under the singular heading of Oregon Ridge Park. We have patched together utility maps, counted parking spaces, measured buildings, walked trails, and identified forest stands, and for perhaps the first time, pulled all of these components into one big package. These will shape the recommendations for the future of this park.
51. Next Steps – to remind you that we are here, working, and want to hear from you. There are a number of upcoming opportunities for you to share your thoughts with the planning team. See you at a park pop up, at the Latino Conservation week event on July 17, and at the next public meeting on October 1.
52. Thank you.



Public Information Meeting Inventory Findings



Oregon Ridge Master Plan



LARDNER/KLEIN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, P.C.

in association with:
Environmental Systems Analysis (ESA)
MTFA/Architecture
SIRI, LLC
RK&K Engineers
CHMGS Government Services



OREGON RIDGE MASTER PLAN Public Information Meeting

06/14/22

The Planning Team

| Master Planning and Landscape Architecture | Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, P.C. www.lardnerklein.com SIRI, LLC www.facebook.com/SIRI-LLC | Elisabeth Lardner and Cara Smith Lisa Siri |
|--|--|--|
| Economics, Market Viability, Program Assessment | CHMGS www.chmgov.com | Margaret Bailey |
| Environmental Inventory and Impact, Mitigation | Environmental Systems Analysis www.esatoday.com | Leslie Wood Mark Burchick |
| Architecture | MTFA www.mtfa.net | Ashley Howell |
| Engineering | RK&K www.rkk.com | Matt Thomasson |
| Public Outreach | Chesapeake Conservancy www.chesapeakeconservancy.org Assedo Consulting assedollc.com | Gabrielle Roffe Odessa Phillip |

The Place

1,100+ acres near Hunt Valley, MD



What is a Master Plan?

- A Master Plan provides guidance and answers questions that will drive park improvements over the next 20+ years.
 - How can valued natural resources be protected?
 - How can the park better meet modern recreational needs and preferences?
- A Master Plan lays out a choreography of priorities and funding needs for future improvements.
- A Master Plan supports the recreation desires for the residents of Baltimore County.
- A successful Master Planning process engages the broad Baltimore County audience.



The woodlands in Oregon Ridge Park

Master Planning Schedule, updated



Milestones and Public Meetings, updated

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| March 15, 2022 | Introduction - Public Meeting |
| March / April 2022 | Interviews and Focus Groups |
| June 14, 2022 | Share Inventory Findings - Public Meeting <i>Draft Documents (maps and reports) will be posted to ORP project website in July</i> |
| Summer 2022 | Bilingual Ranger in the Park |
| July 17, 2022 | Latino Conservation Week event at Oregon Ridge Park |
| July / August 2022 | Public Surveys/ Pop-ups in the park #1 |
| September 2022 | Pop-ups in the park #2 |
| October 1, 2022 | Share Concept Alternatives - Public Meeting |
| January 2023 | Public Meeting on Final Plan |



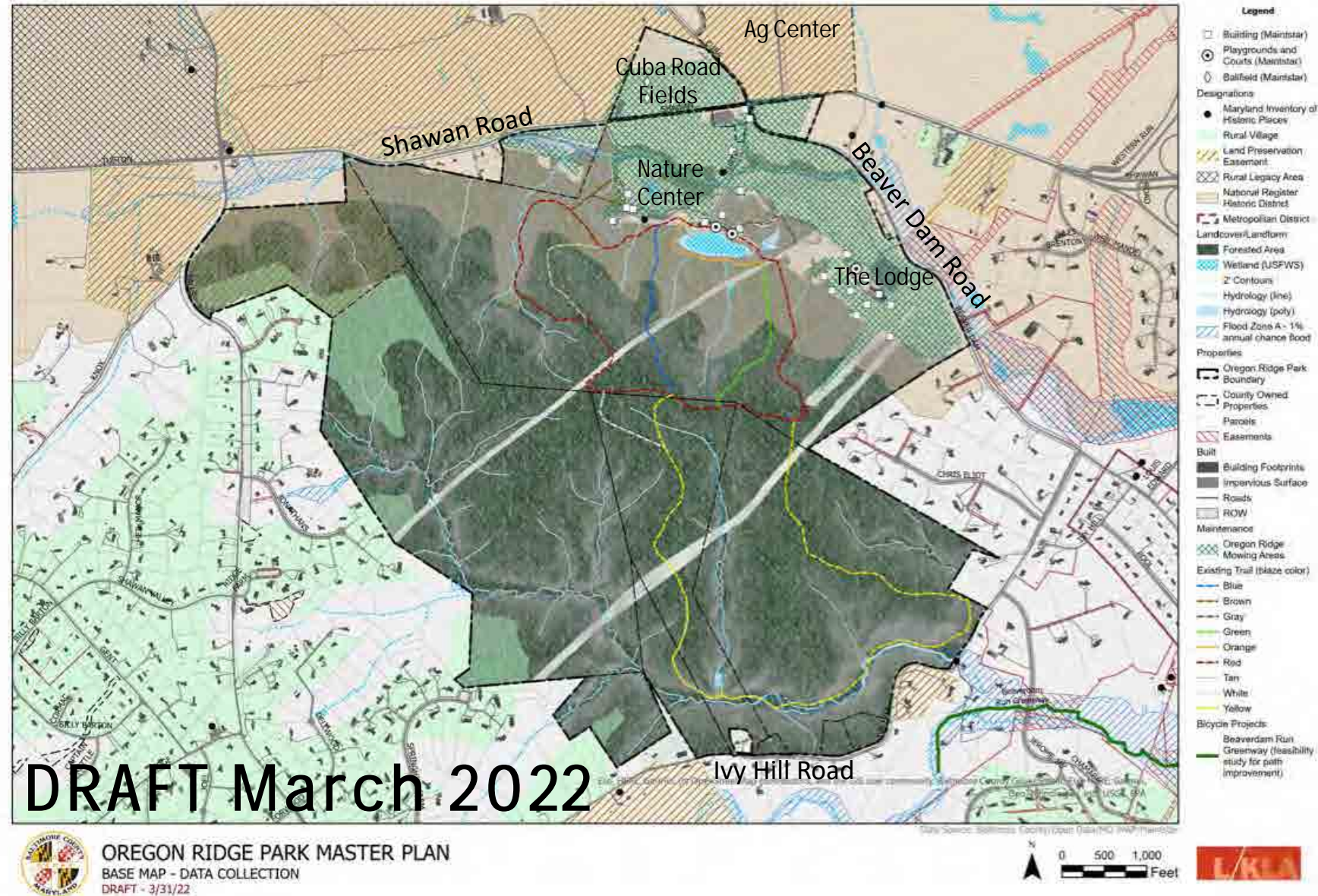
The Park

Three Clusters of Organized Activities

- Nature Center
- Cuba Road Fields
- The Lodge

Majority of Park Lands

- Trails – extensive natural surface trail network
- Forests - Extensive, hardwood forests, much qualifies as interior forest land
- Meadows - 20+ acres
- Class III trout stream
- 3 ponds, 1 stormwater pond



The Park

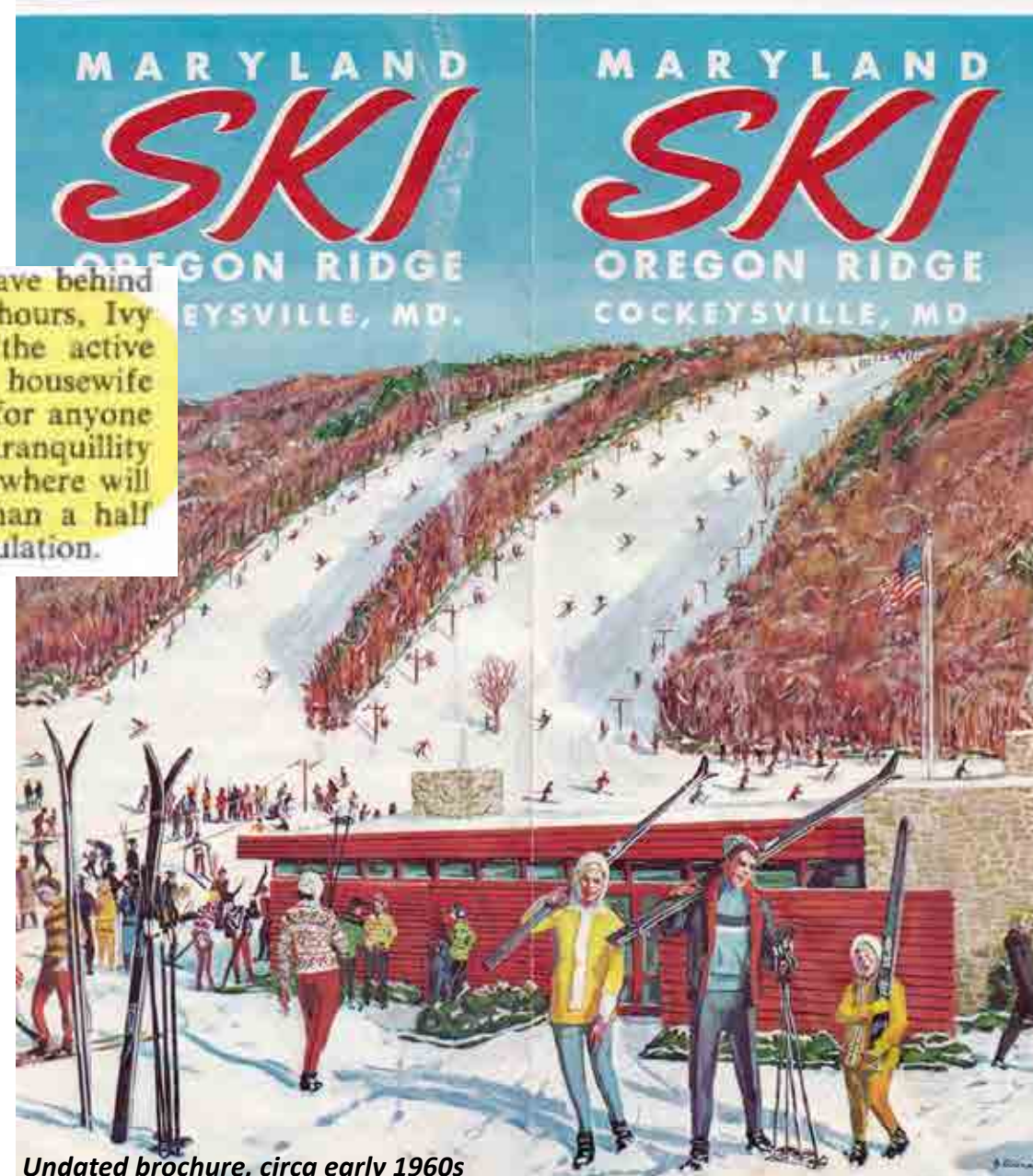
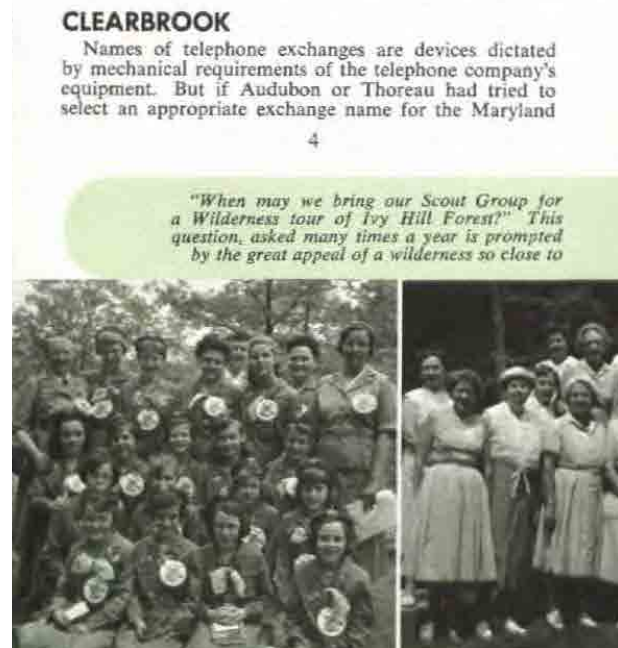
Origins

- Historic Mining Community
- **The Nature Center** - Ivy Hill Forest
- **The Lodge** – SKI Oregon Ridge



Undated brochure, circa early 1960s

RE-CREATION versus "WRECK"-reation
Even more important than ideas for home improvement which result from participation in the Federation's activities, is self-improvement. This may be in the form of increased knowledge, relaxation, inspiration and peace of mind. For you who wish to leave behind the tensions of the busy world for a few hours, Ivy Hill Forest provides a quiet haven. For the active business executive, the professional man, the housewife . . . who wants a complete change of scene, for anyone who wants a breath of truly fresh air, and tranquillity Ivy Hill Forest is an inviting wilderness. Nowhere will you find an area exactly like it . . . less than a half hour from Baltimore with over a million population.

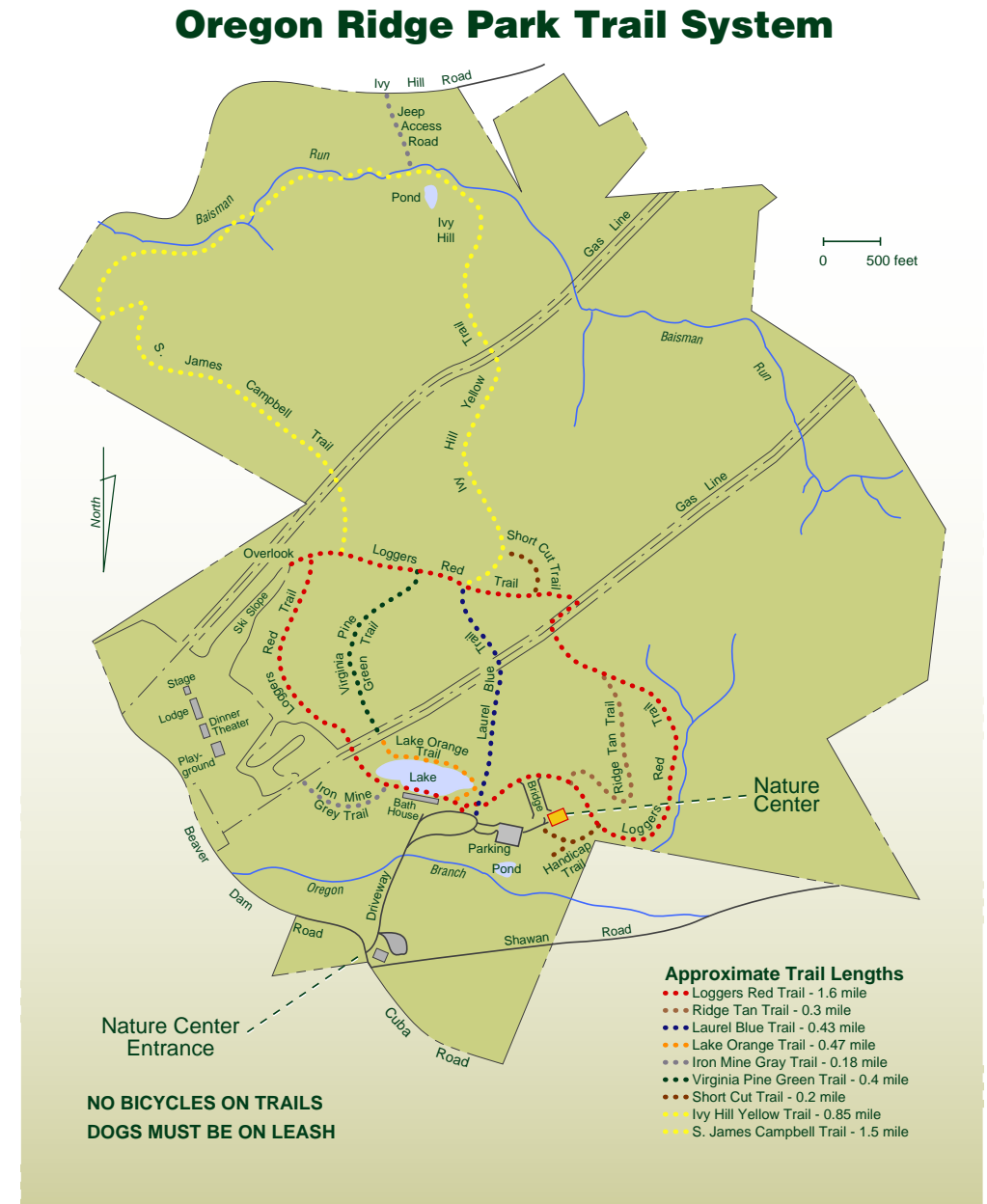


Undated brochure, circa early 1960s

The Map – Take a Fresh Look

Two Ways to Display Oregon Ridge Park

- North is up (below)
- Park Activities at bottom of map, north is down (right)



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

SPRING / SUMMER 2022 – Share Initial Findings June 14

- **Site Conditions – Natural** and Built
- Recreational Program Assessment/ LOS Standards
- Park User Input






Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) mapping

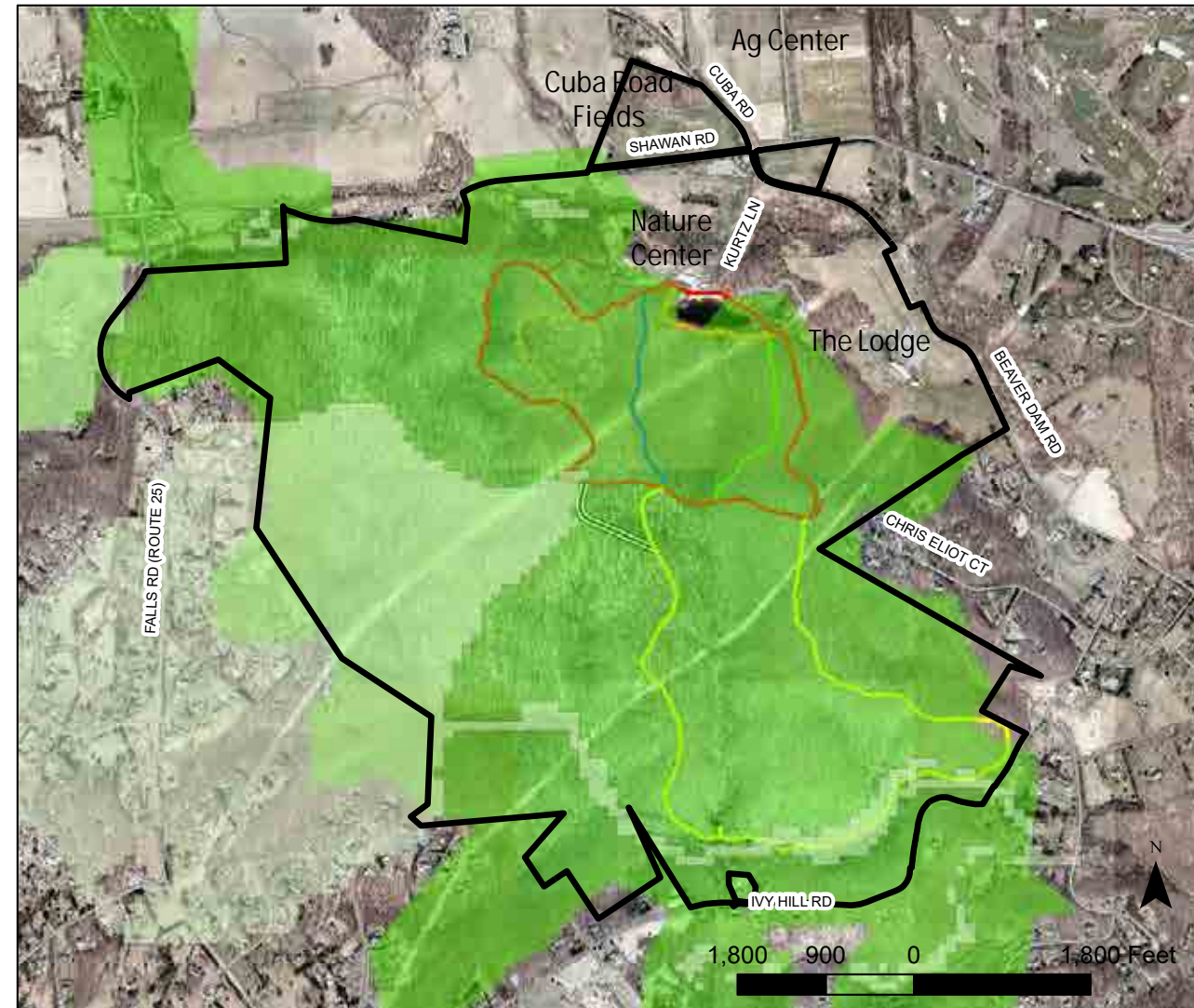
- Green Infrastructure – **park is a large 'hub'**
- **Tier 4 Biodiversity** Conservation network – entire park south of Shawan Road
- Targeted Ecological Area – **portion of Baisman Run** – high ecological value; **best of the best**

Legend

-  Oregon Ridge Park Boundary
-  Targeted Ecological Areas
-  Green Infrastructure Hub

Existing Trail (blaze color)

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Yellow |  Green |
|  White |  Gray |
|  Tan |  Brown |
|  Red |  Blue |
|  Orange | |






Source: DNR Layer and Baltimore County Park Boundary

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment





Intact and Extensive Hardwood Forested Lands - FIDS

- Forest interior dwelling birds (FIDS) require large forest areas to breed successfully and maintain viable populations
- FIDS habitat includes mature or closed-canopy forests at least 50 acres in size with 10 or more acres of "forest interior" habitat (i.e., forest greater than 300 feet from the nearest forest edge)
- Interior forest (ESA data) shown in yellow hatch lines

Legend

-  Oregon Ridge Park Boundary
-  Forest Interior
-  FIDS Habitat

Existing Trail (blaze color)

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Yellow |  Green |
|  White |  Gray |
|  Tan |  Brown |
|  Red |  Blue |
|  Orange | |

Sources:
FID Definition - Maryland DNR, 2000,
*A Guide to the Conservation
of Forest Interior Dwelling Birds in
the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area*

Baltimore County GIS Layers



Source: DNR FIDS Layer and Baltimore County Park Boundary

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Yellow highlight is confirmed or probable breeders at Oregon Ridge Park
Green highlight is confirmed sightings at Oregon Ridge Park

Table 1. List of Forest Interior Dwelling Bird species (FIDS) that potentially breed^a in the Critical Area.

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Safe Date ^b | Migratory Class ^c |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Red-shouldered Hawk ^d | <i>Buteo lineatus</i> | May 1 - Aug 31 | Temperate |
| Broad-winged Hawk ^d | <i>Buteo platypterus</i> | June 5 - Aug 10 | Neotropical |
| Barred Owl ^d | <i>Strix varia</i> | Jan 15 - Aug 31 | Nonmigratory |
| Whin-noor-will | <i>Caprimulgus vociferus</i> | May 10 - July 15 | Neotropical |
| Hairy Woodpecker | <i>Picoides villosus</i> | Mar 15 - Aug 31 | Nonmigratory |
| Pileated Woodpecker | <i>Dryocopus pileatus</i> | Mar 15 - Aug 31 | Nonmigratory |
| Acadian Flycatcher | <i>Empidonax virens</i> | May 25 - Aug 5 | Neotropical |
| Brown Creeper ^d | <i>Certhia americana</i> | May 15 - Aug 31 | Temperate |
| Veery | <i>Catharus fuscescens</i> | June 10 - Aug 31 | Neotropical |
| Wood Thrush | <i>Hylocichla ustulata</i> | May 25 - Aug 20 | Neotropical |
| Yellow-throated Vireo | <i>Vireo flavifrons</i> | May 25 - Aug 15 | Neotropical |
| Red-eyed Vireo | <i>Vireo olivaceus</i> | June 1 - July 31 | Neotropical |
| Northern Parula | <i>Parula americana</i> | June 1 - Aug 15 | Neotropical |
| Black-throated Green Warbler ^d | <i>Dendroica virens</i> | June 10 - Aug 5 | Neotropical |
| Cerulean Warbler ^d | <i>Dendroica cerulea</i> | May 25 - Aug 5 | Neotropical |
| Black-and-white Warbler ^d | <i>Mniotilta varia</i> | May 15 - July 25 | Neotropical |
| American Redstart ^d | <i>Setophaga ruticilla</i> | June 10 - July 20 | Neotropical |
| Prothonotary Warbler | <i>Protonotaria citrea</i> | May 10 - July 20 | Neotropical |
| Worm-eating Warbler ^d | <i>Helmitheros vermivorus</i> | May 20 - July 20 | Neotropical |
| Swainson's Warbler ^{d, e} | <i>Lamprolaima swainsoni</i> | April 20 - Aug 31 | Neotropical |
| Ovenbird | <i>Seiurus aurocapillus</i> | May 20 - Aug 5 | Neotropical |
| Louisiana Waterthrush ^d | <i>Seiurus motacilla</i> | May 1 - July 10 | Neotropical |
| Kentucky Warbler ^d | <i>Geothlypis formosa</i> | May 25 - July 15 | Neotropical |
| Hooded Warbler ^d | <i>Vireo cillaria</i> | May 25 - July 25 | Neotropical |
| Scarlet Tanager | <i>Piranga olivacea</i> | May 25 - Aug 10 | Neotropical |

^a Documentation of breeding evidence based on Stewart and Robbins (1958), Iliff et al. (1996), and Robbins and Blom (1996).
^b Safe dates, as listed in Robbins and Blom (1996), indicate the time of year when a species can be assumed to occupy a breeding territory.
^c Migratory classes: "neotropical" migrant - breeds in temperate North America and winters primarily in Central and South America; "temperate" migrant - breeds and winters primarily in temperate North America; "nonmigratory" - year-round resident with no migratory movements.
^d These species are highly area-sensitive and most vulnerable to forest loss, fragmentation and overall habitat degradation.
^e State-listed as Endangered.













Birds in Oregon Ridge Park, upper left Louisiana waterthrush; upper right bluebird; lower left vulture House; lower right pileated woodpecker

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

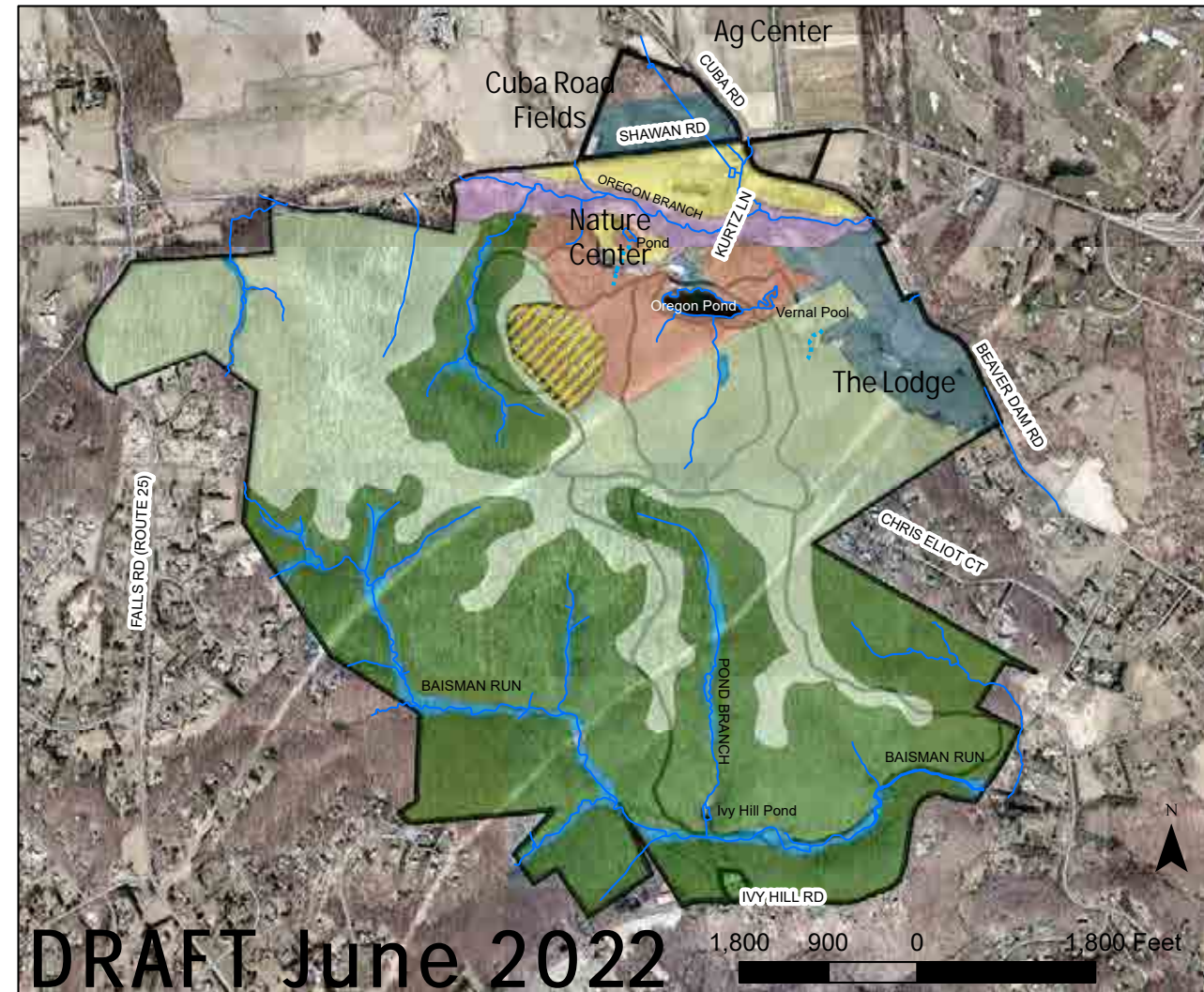
Vegetation and Natural Communities

- Collected vegetation information throughout the park
- Vegetation and Natural Communities map is not exact, but a wide scale look at the park
- We will identify the natural communities as listed in the Maryland Natural Communities document

Legend

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|------------------------|
|  | Oregon Ridge Park Boundary |  | Logged Tulip Poplar |
|  | Stream |  | Lawn |
|  | Floodplain Forest |  | Gypsy Moth Salvage Cut |
|  | Tulip Poplar Forest |  | Seepage Swamp |
|  | Old Field/Meadow | | |
|  | Mixed Oak Forest | | |

Sources:
Field Observations - Spring 2022
Baltimore County GIS Data



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Natural Communities

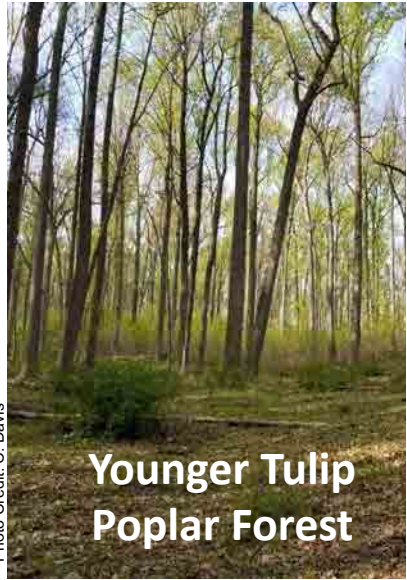
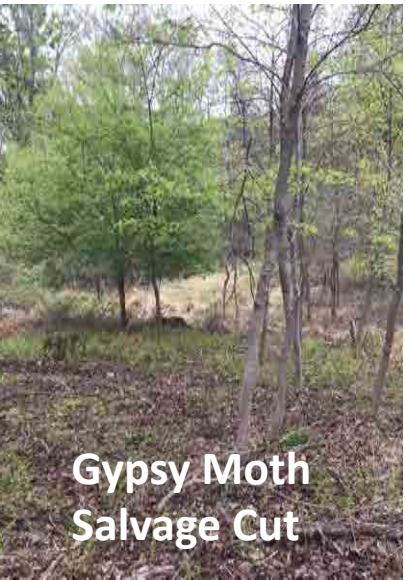


Photo Credit: C. Davis

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Vegetation



Pinxter Azalea



Native Honeysuckle



Pennywort



Perfoliate Bellwort



Microstegium on an old logging road



Lesser Celandine



False Hellebore

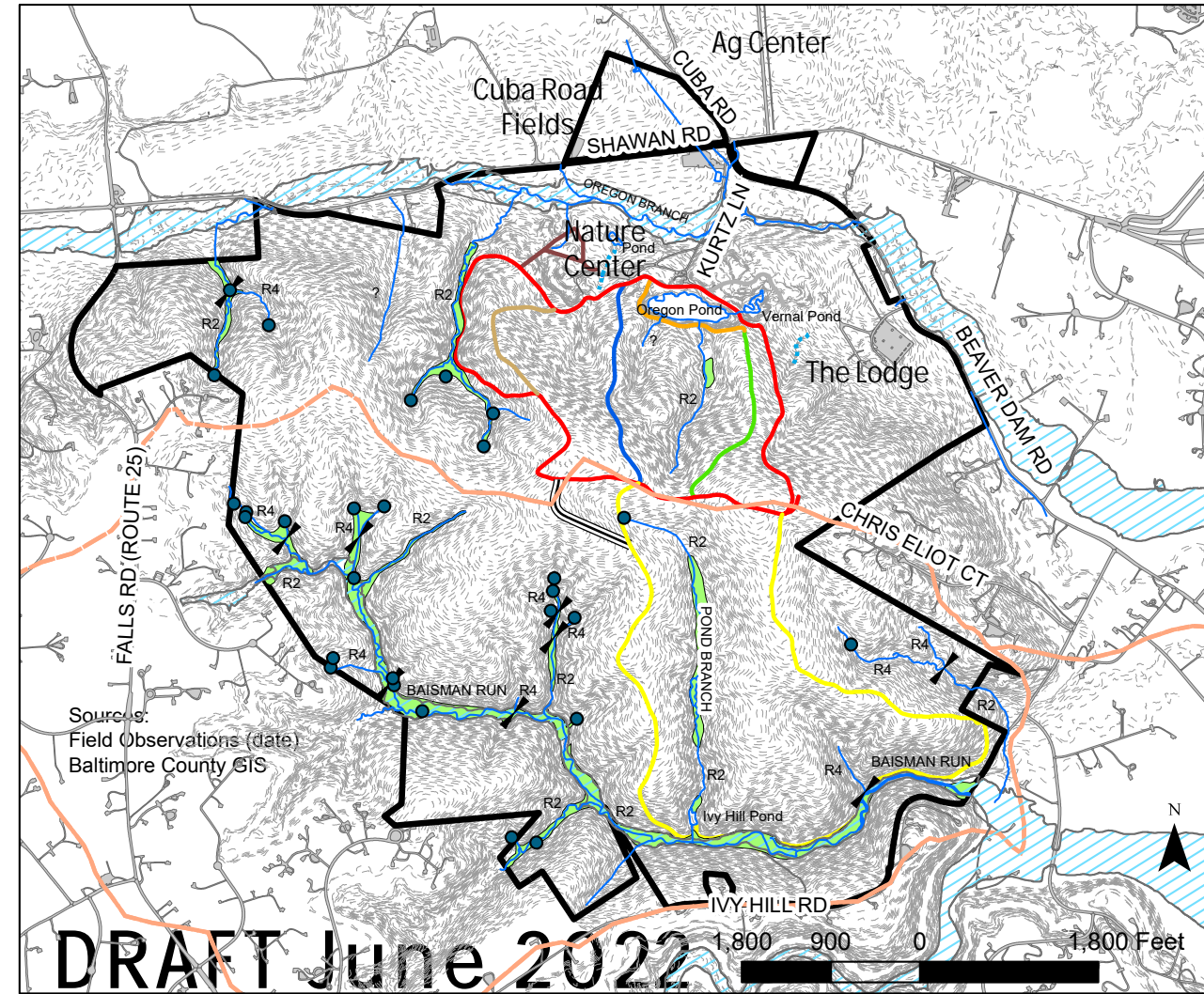
Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Hydrology

- Two main streams - Baisman Run and Oregon Branch
 - Baisman Run is one of the few reproducing brook trout streams in the County
 - Groundwater seeps / springs at head of most tributaries
 - Seepage Swamps dominated by skunk cabbage along the tributaries. These provide cool 55- degree water, which helps support Baisman Run's trout and rosieside dace population
 - 2020 data for Baisman Run and 2016 for Oregon Branch fish indicator of biological integrity was poor; the benthic macroinvertebrate indicator of biological integrity for Baisman Run was good and fair for Oregon Branch
- Vernal Pond, Oregon (quarry) Pond, Ivy Hill Pond

Legend

| | | | |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Oregon Ridge Park Boundary | Rock-lined Ephemeral Channel | Existing Trail (blaze color) | |
| 2' Contour | Groundwater Seep | Yellow | Green |
| Watershed Boundary | Wetland Transition | White | Gray |
| Preliminary Flood Zone A-1% chance flood | Wetland | Tan | Brown |
| Stream | | Red | Blue |
| | | Orange | |

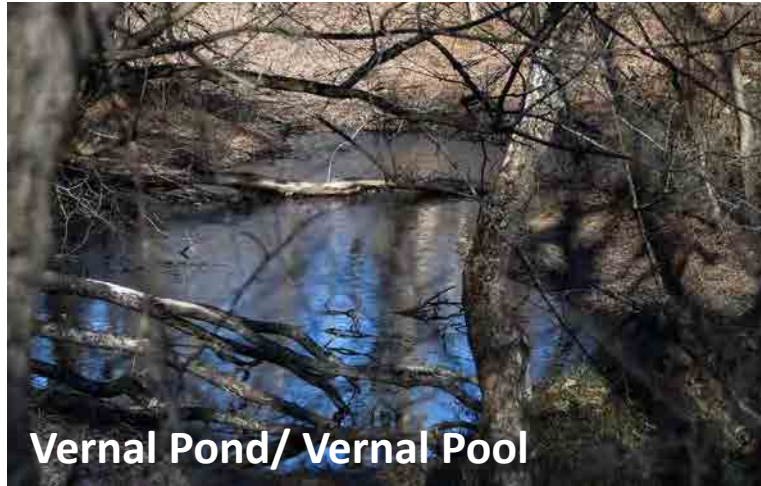


Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Hydrology



Pond Branch



Vernal Pond/ Vernal Pool



Oregon Lake/ Oregon Pond / Quarry



Baisman Run



Groundwater spring with rock roof near Baisman Run

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

SPRING / SUMMER 2022 – Share Initial Findings June 14

- **Site Conditions** – Natural and **Built**
- Recreational Program Assessment/ LOS Standards
- Park User Input



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Nature Center

- Building built in 1983, approximately 6,100 SF
- Pluses
 - Cherished facility; stunning view from back of building
 - Complex and rich landscape setting – pond/marsh, gardens, pavilion, nature play area, exhibits, setting in historic village
- **Overall Condition for the Building: Fair/Poor**



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Nature Center Needs

- **Educational spaces** - larger auditorium; additional space for educational group activities and classes; unable to expand programming capacity with current facility
- **Storage spaces** - current storage areas are scattered and inadequate
- **Animal care area** - better access to tanks for care and cleaning; floor drain issues
- **HVAC and electrical systems** - electrical system at capacity; no AC; heating is uneven
- **Building repair** - doors have rot; rat and other infestations; water deteriorating exterior, missing downspouts; water damage to base and floor area in exhibit area (roof issues)
- **Kitchenette is inadequate** for programming - cooking classes not well supported
- Restrooms, lobby, and outdoor exhibit area are **not ADA compliant**
- Main entrance not enticing; front door not obvious
- Windows clouded and deteriorating



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

The Lodge

- Building built in 1964, modified in mid to late 70s, approximately 12,000 SF
- Pluses
 - Multi-purpose room and two meeting rooms
 - Lodge aesthetic (origins as a ski lodge)
- **Overall Condition for the Building: Fair**



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Lodge Needs

- HVAC - **no AC**, limits summer rentals
- **Better space allocation** – reception needs to be located for visibility and greeting visitors, but secure for handling transactions
- **Building repair**: water deteriorating exterior
- Restrooms and reception desk are **not ADA compliant**
- Main entrance not enticing
- Loading and transformers are adjacent to main entrance
- No sprinkler or alarm system
- Windows not fully operable
- WIFI unreliable (affects use as meeting area)
- Catering kitchen inadequate
- Sound system inadequate
- Largest room does not have fully closing door for privacy
- Need staff restroom
- Women's restroom inadequate at large events



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Hubert I Snyder Concert Shell

- Open structure with fabric roof
- Pluses
 - Nice setting
 - High level performing arts facility for a county park
- **Overall Condition for the Stage: Good**

Concert Shell Needs

- Not ADA compliant; no accessible access to lawn or to exterior restrooms for patrons
- Plywood flooring rots
- Flooring design does not support much weight (does not support risers for choirs)
- Tent fabric needs patching
- Nothing can be hung from structure



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Dinner Theater

- Building built in 1966; new roof in 1988
- Pluses
 - Proximity to Lodge
- **Overall Condition for the Building: Poor**

Dinner Theater Needs

- **Not ADA compliant**; restrooms, walkways, lobby desk
- Roof, windows, doors, and exterior walls have **water damage**
- **Severe deterioration** of concrete masonry unit at several rain leaders; rain leaders stop at building and do not extend away from building; wood columns deteriorated and misaligned
- Interior finishes are dated



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Large Playground at Lodge

- Pluses
 - In the queue for replacement/refreshment
- **Overall Condition for the Playground: Poor to Fair**

Playground Needs

- Wrong location, **too close to Lodge vehicular traffic**
- When this area of the park is **closed to the general public for a special event, the playground is also closed**
- **Surfacing worn out**
- **Equipment appears ADA compliant**, missing hand grip for transfer station on 2-5 year old equipment
- **Site furniture and access route not ADA compliant**
- Erosion in areas adjacent to rubber surfacing



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Nature Playground near Nature Center

- Pluses
 - Heavily used
 - Shaded by tree canopy
- **Overall Condition for the Playground: Good**

Playground Needs

- Impact attenuating surfacing
- ADA compliant accessible route



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Picnic Pavilions

- Pluses
 - Two tent pavilions near Lodge playground work well
 - Permanent pavilions have electrical hook ups
- **Overall Condition for Pavilions: Good**

Pavilion Needs

- **Limited Lodge parking impacts use - cannot rent when Lodge in use or at same time**
- **ADA accessible route between pavilion and parking needed at Lodge side pavilions**
- **Reduce capacity of large Lodge side pavilions to 150 from 200 (if rain, no room for 200 sheltered)**
- **Water hook ups at each pavilion**

| Pavilions | Permit # Capacity | Actual Maximum Users # Accommodations (tables) |
|---------------|-------------------|--|
| Lodge | 200 | 200 (when Lodge not rented) |
| | 200 | 200 (when Lodge not rented) |
| | 125 | 75 (when Lodge not rented) |
| Nature Center | 100 | Near NC, currently used for education; cannot rent both 100 capacity pavilions at the same time due to parking limitations |
| | 100 | 75 due to parking limitations |
| | 30 | |



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Picnic Areas

- Pluses
 - Shaded by tree canopy
- **Overall Condition for the Picnic Areas: Good**

Picnic Area Needs

- **ADA compliant accessible route and tables**



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Free-standing Restrooms

- Pluses
 - None
- **Overall Condition for the Freestanding Restrooms: Poor**

| Restrooms | | Issues |
|------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Lodge Side | 3 separate comfort stations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rarely open to the public• Septic capacity• Not weatherized; seasonal |

Restroom Needs

- **ADA compliant accessible route and facility**
- Weatherization for **year-round** use
- **Increased capacity**
- Open them for use with **more frequency**



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Temporary Restrooms

- Pluses
 - None
- **Overall Condition for the Temporary Restrooms: Good**

| Temporary Restrooms | | Issues |
|---------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Lodge Side | 1 | Permanent, near large playground |
| Cuba Road Fields | 1 | Seasonal |
| Nature Center | 1 | Seasonal |

Temporary Restrooms Needs

- **Replace 'permanent' temporary restroom with permanent year-round facility**



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Athletic Fields and Exercise Equipment

- Pluses
 - 2 triangle softball fields in distinct, separate area – Cuba Road Fields
- **Overall Condition for the Ballfields: Good**
- **Exercise Equipment: Poor**



Athletic Fields and Exercise Equipment Needs

- Replace exercise equipment
- Slightly rotate field to allow adult softball use of both fields simultaneously
- Provide equipment box(es)



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Infrastructure - Septic/Sewer and Water/Wells

Septic/Sewer

- **No public sewer or water tap is available**, the park is outside of Baltimore County's Urban/Rural Demarcation Line (URDL)
- The **current septic system is 40 years +** and its **capacity is inadequate to support existing activities** within the park
- Manor soils on upper areas of site may support septic, use **may adversely impact forest cover**
- **Alternative systems** may be considered - **compost or package treatments with drainfields** - if replacement septic systems with drainfields cannot be installed

Wells

- Water source is from **multiple wells**, Lodge side requires chlorination and monitoring due to system design
- Anecdotal reports of **inadequate water supply** at events on both the Nature Center and Lodge sides
- Geologic features suggest **water supply should not be an issue**, may require new wells

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Vehicular Circulation

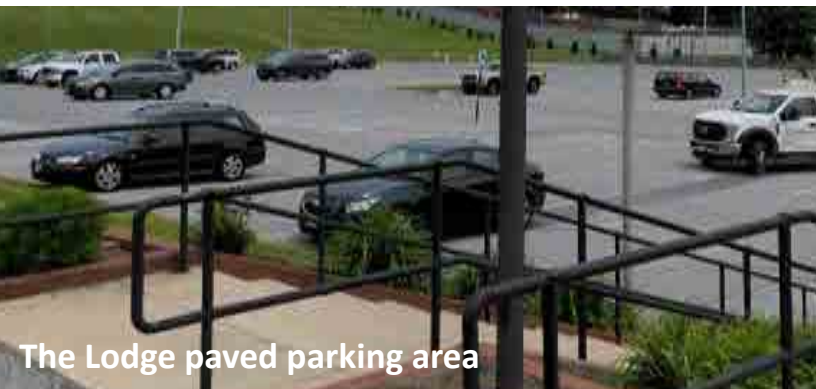
- Beaver Dam, Kurtz, and Shawan Roads are all **two-lane rural roads without sidewalk or curb and gutter**
- **Vehicular exit from Lodge area has poor to no sightline to the north** onto Beaver Dam Road
- Most visitors are expected to be to/from the east
- Capacity analysis: Shawan/B.D.R. intersection (#2) could accommodate approx. 150 additional weekday afternoon peak hour trips into and out of site before unacceptable traffic ops
- **Typical recreational land uses would be expected to produce less than 150 weekday hourly vehicle trips**
- **Additional weekend studies/observations are recommended**



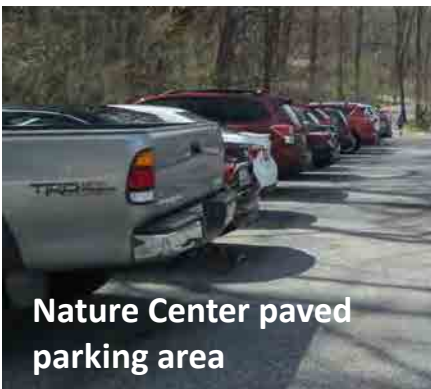
Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Parking

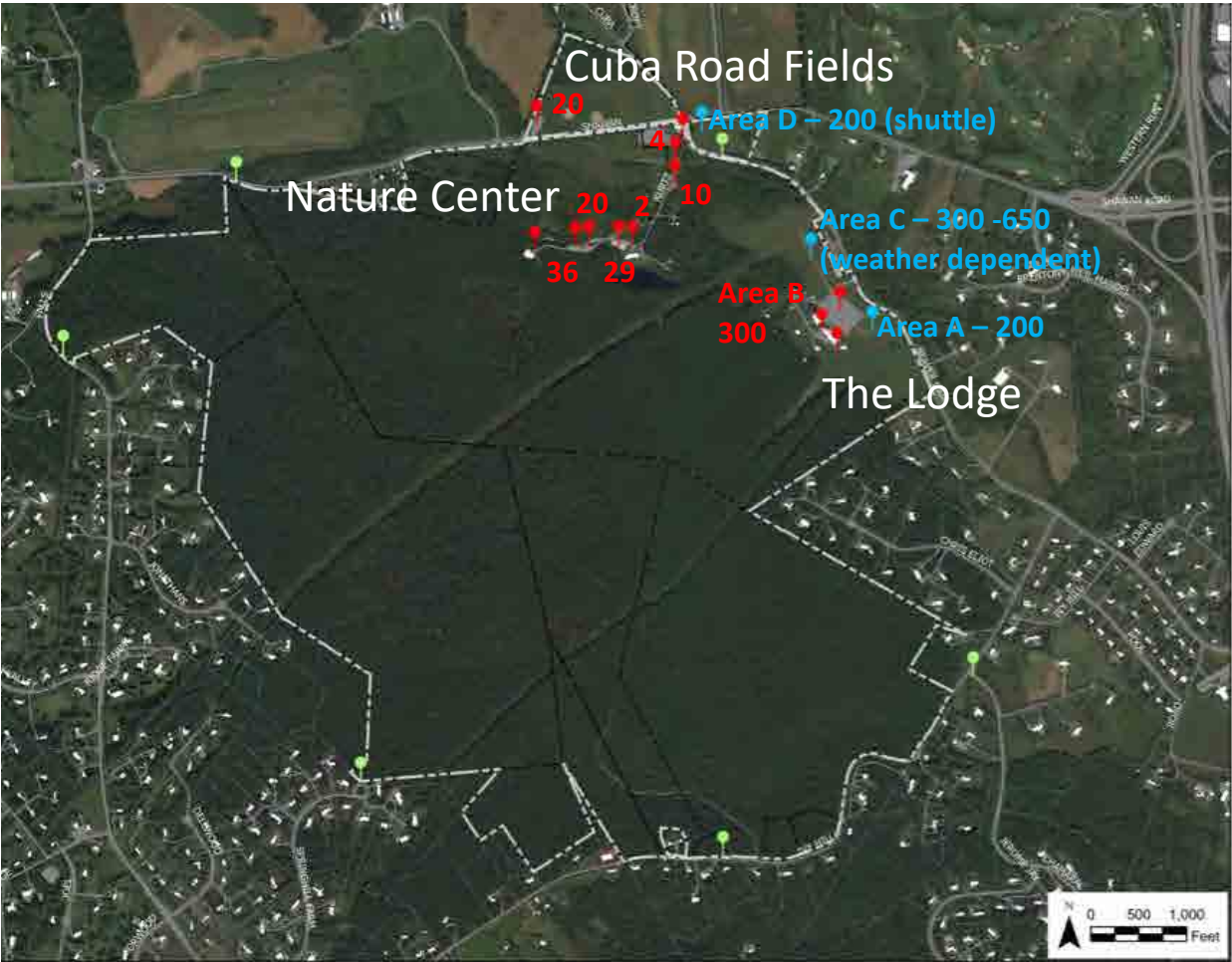
| Existing | Permanent | Overflow - lawn |
|------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| The Lodge | Area B 300 permanent paved | Area A – 200 Area C – 300 in bad weather, 650 in good weather Area D – 200 (requires shuttle) |
| Cuba Road Fields | 20 permanent paved | |
| Nature Center | 101 permanent gravel, paved | |



The Lodge paved parking area



Nature Center paved parking area



Legend

Oregon Ridge Park Boundary
County Owned Properties

Parcels
Building Footprints
Parking (L/KLA inventory June 2022)

Official (gravel or paved)
Overflow (grass/field parking)
Informal (pull offs or on-road parking)

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Trail Network

- ADA accessibility concerns
- Move towards sustainable alignments for trails
- Layers of data
 - Baltimore County GIS data
 - Trail enhancement proposals to date



Trail Network



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Trail Network Proposals

2021 Citizen Generated Project Proposal to reroute portions of the yellow trail

Current Trail conditions are extremely poor and dangerous with some slopes exceeding 25 degrees. It's difficult to show in a photograph how severely degraded the trail has become.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/dE6wvdyoDroU86m1W7>



7

Oregon Ridge Trail Assessment Map: Close-up north – with trail repair location numbers.



Green=Sustainable trail,
Purple=Minimal erosion, some negative impacts,
Red=Unsustainable trail, severe negative impacts
Yellow=Trail reroutes/additions
Orange=Unidentified trail found,
White=Bridge
Turquoise=Property boundary

2018 Trail Conservancy Proposal
for trail realignment around lake

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

SPRING / SUMMER 2022 – Share Initial Findings June 14

- Site Conditions – Natural and Built
- **Recreational Program Assessment/ LOS Standards**
- Park User Input



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Park Attendance

- FY 19 attendance is almost equally split between each side of the park – Lodge and Nature Center

| Activity & Location | Attendance FY 19 | Percent of Total |
|---|---------------------|------------------|
| Lodge Side of Park | | |
| Lodge Facility | 16,608 | 11.4% |
| Lodge Picnic Pavilions | 12,883 | 8.9% |
| Sports Fields | 27,320 | 18.8% |
| Area C | 4,445 | 3.1% |
| Whole Park Events | 17,719 | 12.2% |
| Total (1) | 78,975 | 54% |
| Nature Center Side of Park | | |
| Art Events | 588 | 0.4% |
| Hobby Events | 415 | 0.3% |
| Social Events (e.g., After School, Mommy & Me) | 804 | 0.6% |
| Nature Programs | 12,259 | 8.4% |
| Sports | 95 | 0.1% |
| Summer Camps | 1,035 | 0.7% |
| Special Events (e.g., Parties, Holiday Events, NC Events) | 5,157 | 3.6% |
| Non-Registered Events (2) | 45,759 | 31.5% |
| Total | 66,112 | 46% |
| FY 2019 Estimated Total Park Attendance | 145,087 | 100% |

Note (1) Does not include Playground attendees and (2) This includes, meetings, drop in visits to the Nature Center and Outside Groups using the Nature Center. It does not include standard estimate of non associated attendance.

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

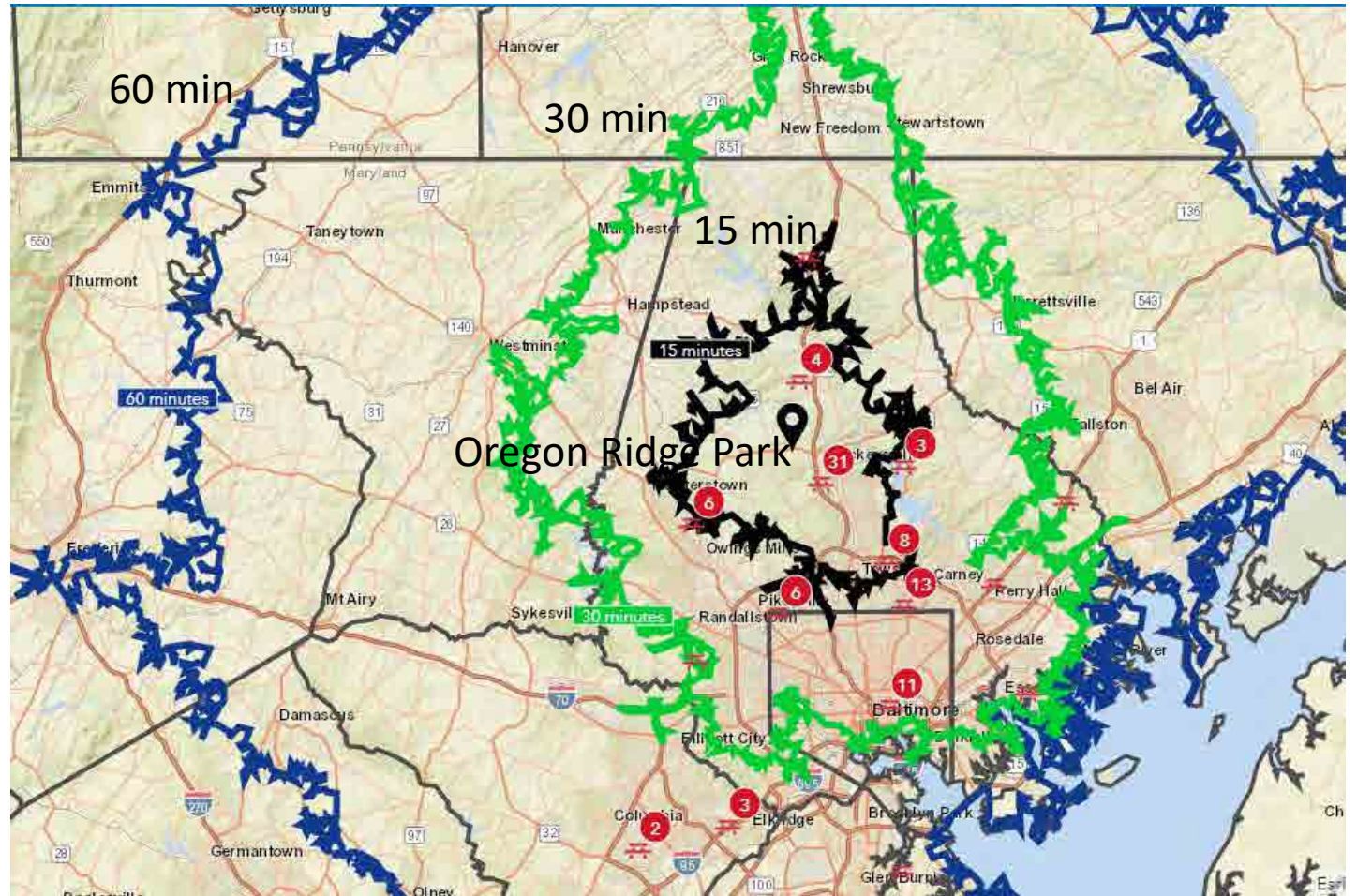
The Lodge Side Usage- Picnic Pavilions FY 19

- Majority of picnic functions point of contacts are located within Baltimore County and within 15-minute drive to Oregon Ridge Park
- Over 70 percent of the Picnic Pavilion rentals are identified as profit vs. non-profit organizations on the Lodge side (data not available for Nature Center side)

Notes:

Red Dots with Number represent incident of that Zip Code.

(1) Geocode data on Nature Center Pavilions was not available



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

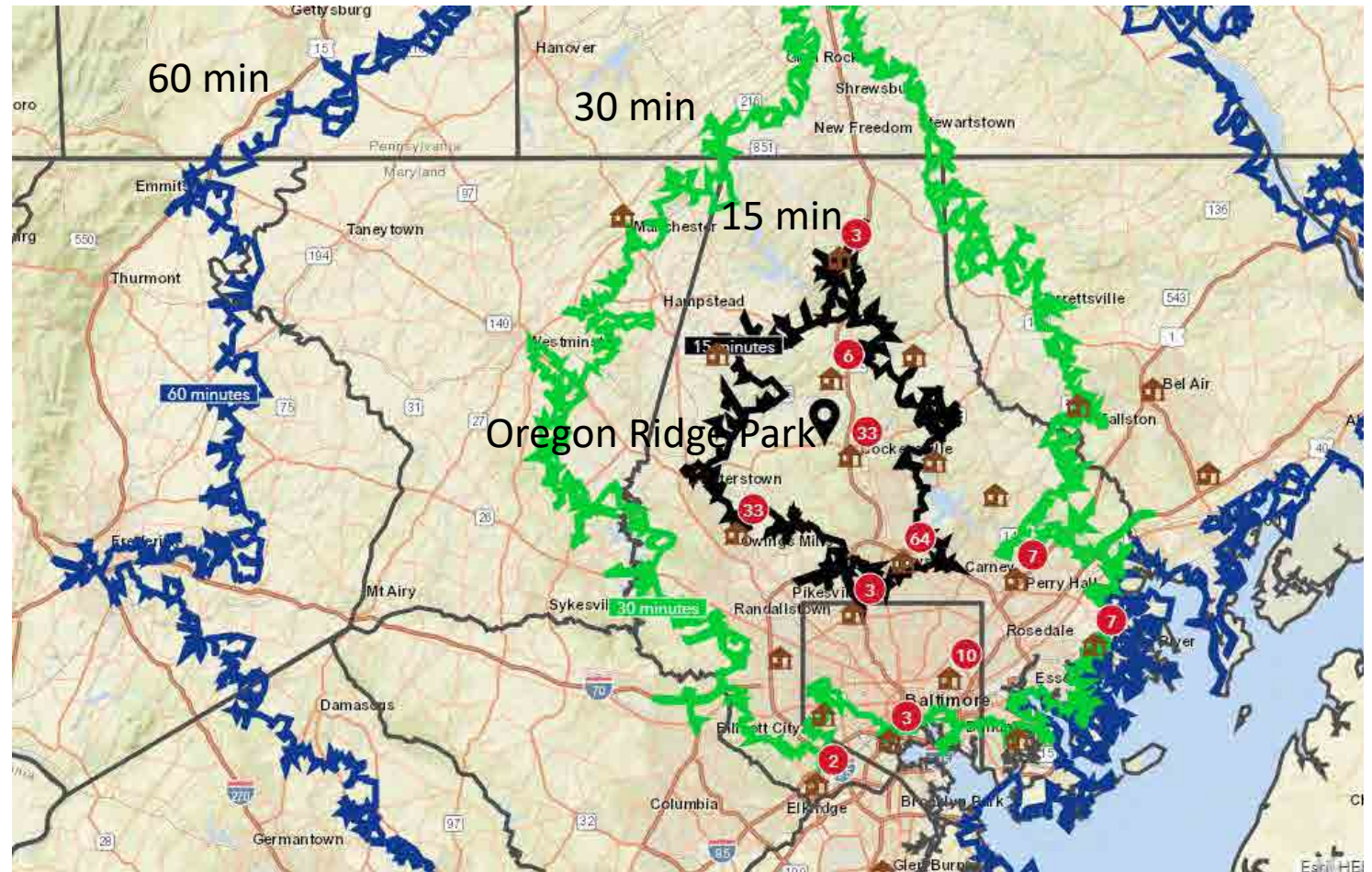
The Lodge Side Usage - Meeting Space FY 19

- Majority of lodge functions point of contacts are located within Baltimore County, but the locations are spread between a 15- and 30-minute drive to Oregon Ridge Park
- Over 90 percent of the users are identified as Non-Profit vs. Profit Organizations

Notes:

Red Dots with Number represent incident of that Zip Code.

Lodge Reservations: Individual permits and licenses



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

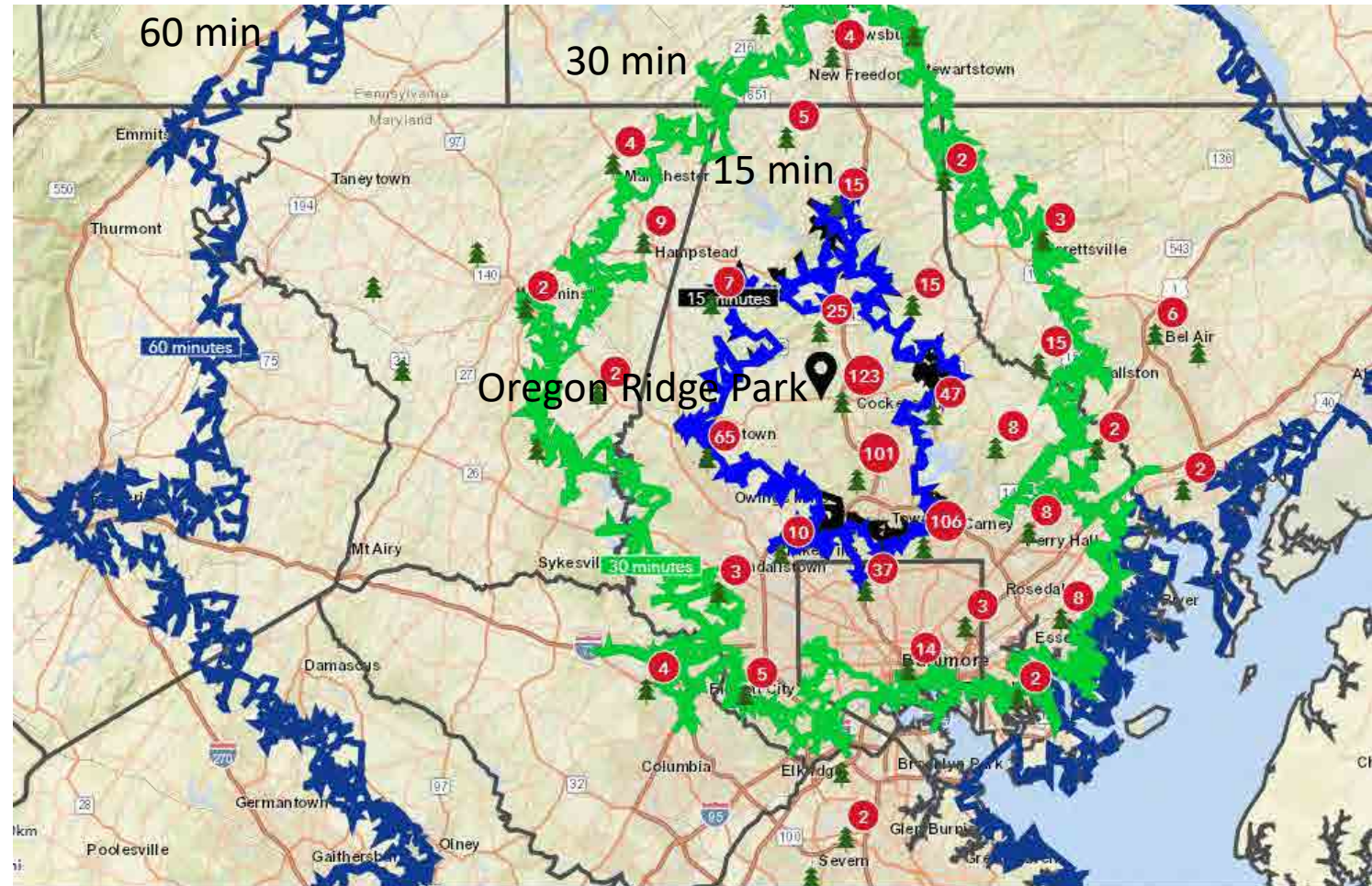
Nature Council Membership FY22

- Majority of Nature Council Membership is from individuals within Baltimore County, but members do exist in surrounding counties
- Approximately one third of members are outside the 15-minute drive time to the park

Notes:

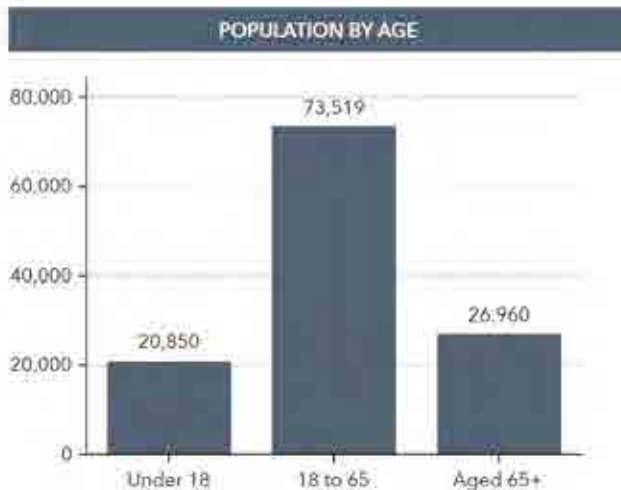
Red Dots with Number represent incident of that Zip Code.

Nature Council membership by zip codes is the best comprehensive data available for tracking who visits or is associated with the Nature Center.



Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Drawing Area Profile 0-15 Minutes to Oregon Ridge Park



| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 121,326 | 48,178 | 2.32 | 43.8 | \$93,766 | \$441,160 | 195 | 113 | 49 |
| Population | Households | Avg Size Household | Median Age | Median Household Income | Median Home Value | Wealth Index | Housing Affordability | Diversity Index |



| Language Spoken (ACS) | Age 5-17 | 18-64 | Age 65+ | Total |
|--------------------------------------|----------|--------|---------|--------|
| English Only | 15,177 | 62,010 | 21,836 | 99,023 |
| Spanish | 780 | 2,790 | 515 | 4,085 |
| Spanish & English Well | 745 | 2,138 | 425 | 3,308 |
| Spanish & English Not Well | 9 | 557 | 58 | 624 |
| Spanish & No English | 26 | 95 | 32 | 153 |
| Indo-European | 773 | 4,134 | 1,329 | 6,236 |
| Indo-European & English Well | 766 | 3,796 | 1,086 | 5,648 |
| Indo-European & English Not Well | 7 | 311 | 194 | 512 |
| Indo-European & No English | 0 | 26 | 49 | 75 |
| Asian-Pacific Island | 725 | 3,550 | 890 | 5,165 |
| Asian-Pacific Isl & English Well | 691 | 2,967 | 667 | 4,325 |
| Asian-Pacific Isl & English Not Well | 35 | 437 | 168 | 640 |
| Asian-Pacific Isl & No English | 0 | 146 | 55 | 201 |
| Other Language | 84 | 1,559 | 103 | 1,746 |
| Other Language & English Well | 75 | 1,481 | 103 | 1,659 |
| Other Language & English Not Well | 9 | 78 | 0 | 87 |
| Other Language & No English | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Note: ESRI's **Diversity Index** captures the racial and ethnic diversity of a geographic area in a single number, from 0 to 100. The Diversity Index allows for efficient analysis and mapping of seven race groups that can be either of Hispanic or non-Hispanic origin—a total of 14 separate race/ethnic groupings. ESRI forecasts for 2021 based upon 2020 US Census Forecast.

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

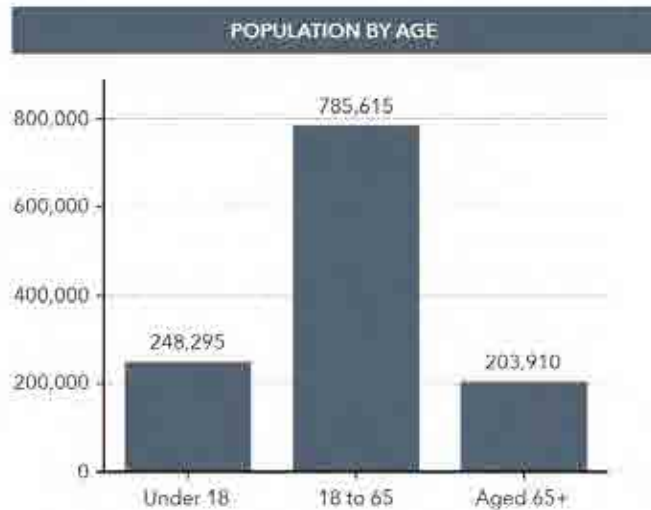
Market Drawing Area Profile - 15-30 Minutes to ORP



1,237,820 Population
491,431 Households
2.44 Avg Size Household
38.8 Median Age
\$64,405 Median Household Income
\$265,022 Median Home Value
97 Wealth Index
122 Housing Affordability
64 Diversity Index

AT RISK POPULATION

122,654 Households With Disability
218,545 Population 65+
83,647 Households Without Vehicle



POVERTY AND LANGUAGE

14% Households Below the Poverty Level
64,829 Households Below the Poverty Level
109 Pop 65+ Speak Spanish & No English

POPULATION AND BUSINESSES

1,228,522 Daytime Population
46,167 Total Businesses
593,180 Total Employees

| Language Spoken (ACS) | Age 5-17 | 18-64 | Age 65+ | Total |
|--------------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| English Only | 162,997 | 683,057 | 175,598 | 1,021,652 |
| Spanish | 11,794 | 33,905 | 2,130 | 47,829 |
| Spanish & English Well | 10,728 | 24,242 | 1,697 | 36,667 |
| Spanish & English Not Well | 966 | 7,565 | 323 | 8,874 |
| Spanish & No English | 80 | 2,098 | 109 | 2,287 |
| Indo-European | 6,555 | 32,681 | 7,653 | 46,889 |
| Indo-European & English Well | 6,309 | 29,237 | 5,316 | 40,862 |
| Indo-European & English Not Well | 246 | 2,840 | 1,609 | 4,695 |
| Indo-European & No English | 0 | 604 | 727 | 1,331 |
| Asian-Pacific Island | 3,340 | 21,889 | 3,374 | 28,603 |
| Asian-Pacific Isl & English Well | 3,035 | 18,106 | 1,873 | 23,014 |
| Asian-Pacific Isl & English Not Well | 304 | 3,061 | 941 | 4,306 |
| Asian-Pacific Isl & No English | 0 | 722 | 561 | 1,283 |
| Other Language | 4,228 | 21,239 | 1,469 | 26,936 |
| Other Language & English Well | 3,930 | 19,970 | 1,223 | 25,123 |
| Other Language & English Not Well | 299 | 1,084 | 152 | 1,535 |
| Other Language & No English | 0 | 185 | 94 | 279 |

Note: ESRI's **Diversity Index** captures the racial and ethnic diversity of a geographic area in a single number, from 0 to 100. The Diversity Index allows for efficient analysis and mapping of seven race groups that can be either of Hispanic or non-Hispanic origin—a total of 14 separate race/ethnic groupings. ESRI forecasts for 2021 based upon 2020 US Census Forecast.

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

Market Drawing Area Profile - 30-60 Minutes to ORP



2,600,682 Population
958,956 Households
2.67 Avg Size Household
39.7 Median Age
\$89,771 Median Household Income
\$349,388 Median Home Value
148 Wealth Index
132 Housing Affordability
65 Diversity Index

AT RISK POPULATION

208,869 Households With Disability
434,332 Population 65+
58,765 Households Without Vehicle

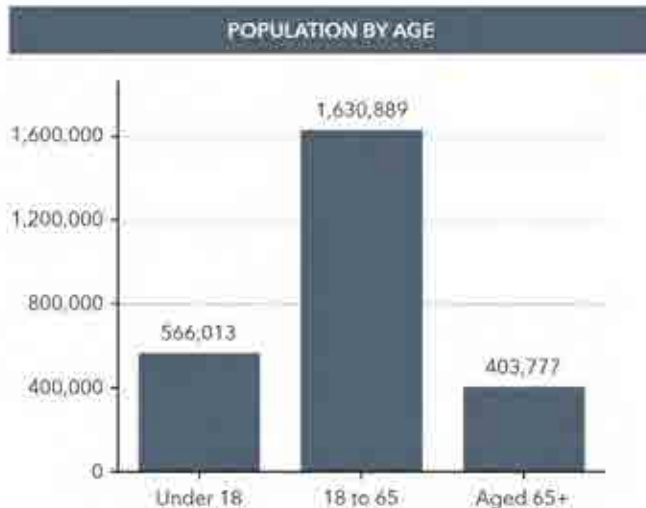
POVERTY AND LANGUAGE

8% Households Below the Poverty Level
71,051 Households Below the Poverty Level
1,830 Pop 65+ Speak Spanish & No English

POPULATION AND BUSINESSES

2,502,331 Daytime Population
88,139 Total Businesses
1,137,843 Total Employees

| Language Spoken (ACS) | Age 5-17 | 18-64 | Age 65+ | Total |
|--------------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| English Only | 340,472 | 1,251,867 | 328,051 | 1,920,390 |
| Spanish | 49,653 | 156,181 | 12,311 | 220,145 |
| Spanish & English Well | 46,021 | 113,715 | 7,658 | 167,394 |
| Spanish & English Not Well | 2,856 | 30,333 | 2,823 | 36,012 |
| Spanish & No English | 776 | 14,133 | 1,830 | 16,739 |
| Indo-European | 13,821 | 70,228 | 14,948 | 98,995 |
| Indo-European & English Well | 13,052 | 64,581 | 12,103 | 89,736 |
| Indo-European & English Not Well | 672 | 4,700 | 2,003 | 7,375 |
| Indo-European & No English | 97 | 945 | 841 | 1,883 |
| Asian-Pacific Island | 10,670 | 63,179 | 14,413 | 88,262 |
| Asian-Pacific Isl & English Well | 10,034 | 53,573 | 9,010 | 72,617 |
| Asian-Pacific Isl & English Not Well | 597 | 8,479 | 3,753 | 12,829 |
| Asian-Pacific Isl & No English | 39 | 1,126 | 1,650 | 2,815 |
| Other Language | 8,557 | 46,195 | 5,049 | 59,801 |
| Other Language & English Well | 7,953 | 43,229 | 3,938 | 55,120 |
| Other Language & English Not Well | 594 | 2,634 | 625 | 3,853 |
| Other Language & No English | 10 | 333 | 485 | 828 |



Note: ESRI's **Diversity Index** captures the racial and ethnic diversity of a geographic area in a single number, from 0 to 100. The Diversity Index allows for efficient analysis and mapping of seven race groups that can be either of Hispanic or non-Hispanic origin—a total of 14 separate race/ethnic groupings. ESRI forecasts for 2021 based upon 2020 US Census Forecast.

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

SPRING / SUMMER 2022 – Share Initial Findings June 14

- Site Conditions – Natural and Built
- Recreational Program Assessment/ LOS Standards
- **Park User Input**



Thank You!

We have received much help, materials, and insight from people who love the park and have far more knowledge of it than we do, for that sharing, we are most grateful.

Nature Center Volunteers - Martha Johnson, Charlie Davis, Alan Penczek, Tom Farrell

Oregon Ridge Nature Council – Ralph Brown, Ann Conoles, Karen Jackson, Elaine Kasmer, Debbie Bacharach, Jim Curtis, Gary Anderson, Polly Roberts, Pat Clagett, Eszter Sapi

Trails - Keith Rosenstiel

Hot August - Jeremy Silver, Rouge Catering/Hot August

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra - Rebecca Cain

Kennedy Krieger - Michele Mueller

Biking - Joanna Sales

Valleys Planning Council - Renee Hamidi

Biking - Carmita Vogel and Michael Marinaro

Trails, Environment, and Park History - Charlie and Linda Davis

Ballfields - Mike Madsen

Birders – Simon Best and Carol Schreter

And many individuals who have emailed their concerns and dreams for the park. Please keep these ideas coming!

Explore - Inventory / Listening / Assessment

SPRING / SUMMER 2022 – Share Initial Findings June 14

- Site Conditions – Natural and Built
- Recreational Program Assessment/ LOS Standards
- **Park User Input**
 - Interviews and Focus Groups 90% complete
 - Upcoming Surveys and Park Pop-ups
 - Emails and letters received
 - Bilingual Ranger in Park



Word cloud from transcript of interviews and focus groups

So Why Do All of This Work?

Concept Alternatives – What should Oregon Ridge Park be in 20 years?

Site Conditions

- Concept alternative examples may or may not include:
 - Alternative locations for the large playground currently near the Lodge?
 - Rerouting or removal of existing trails from high quality natural areas of the park
 - Expansion of the Lodge with a meeting area in place of the current Dinner Theater
 - Renovate or relocate and expand the Nature Center, in its current site or elsewhere in the park

Recreation Program Assessment and Trends

- Concept alternative examples may or may not include:
 - Expanded biking activities based on recreational demand (current use of the lawn area)
 - Scale back current recreation activities due to lack of demand
 - Create multi-use trails - can multi-use trails have a place in the park (bike/horse/people), on the perimeter of the park or internal to the park?

Park Users and Community Members – vet the alternatives through interviews, casual conversations, emails, survey responses, park pop-ups and the next Public Meeting in October

Next Steps

Summer 2022

Bilingual Ranger in the Park

July 17, 2022

Latino Conservation Week event at
Oregon Ridge Park

July / August 2022

Public Surveys/ Pop-ups #1

September 2022

Pop-ups #2

October 1, 2022

Share Concept Alternatives - Public
Meeting

January 2023

Public Meeting on Final Plan





Thank you.

For more information:

Visit the Project webpage

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/recreation/countyparks/most-popular/oregonridgelodge/master-plan.html>

Contact:

oregonridgemasterplan@baltimorecountymd.gov

Former quarry, canoe launch, and small playground at Oregon Ridge Park

June 14 chat

| Message Property | Time | Send User | Target User | Content |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---|
| public | 2022-06-14 18:06:26 | David ODell | All Participants | as mentioned please add your name here if you would like to speak |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:14:39 | Keith Rosenstiel | All Participants | Yes, PLEASE flip the map. |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:24:20 | Jaron Shaul | All Participants | I'd like a chance to make a comment please, following the presentation when appropriate |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:25:07 | Alex Waugh | All Participants | I would also like to comment when the presentation is complete. |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:28:50 | Mahnaz Mazaheri Assadi | All Participants | Hello Elizabeth, Thank you for your Oregon Ridge Master plan information. This is Mahnaz Mazaheri as a CEQ., I would like to know, about your plan for Environmental Impact Assessment. That was my question in your previ |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:33:32 | Jaron Shaul | All Participants | I would argue that it's not safe to walk from the light rail to Oregon Ridge |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:37:54 | Keith Rosenstiel | All Participants | Teh Green Trail extension, and the Yellow Trail reroute, have been added to the 'hard' maps on the trail kiosks. Still waiting for Rec and Parks to update online map. |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:38:07 | Dr. Carol Newill | All Participants | Please define what you mean by "multimodal" around the park perimeter, thank you. |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:39:32 | Dr. Carol Newill | All Participants | Define FY 19? |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:40:19 | Roslyn J Johnson | All Participants | FY19 is Fiscal year 2019 so July1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:41:47 | Dr. Carol Newill | All Participants | I understand FY 19 refers to July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. The pandemic started to have an effect on people staying home around March or April, as I recall. The surge in getting out of the house started a little later, and |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:42:28 | Dr. Carol Newill | All Participants | Thank you, Ms. Johnson, the pandemic did not have any effect on that time period. |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:46:21 | Roslyn J Johnson | All Participants | You're welcome. That's why it was chosen. |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:48:53 | Keith Rosenstiel | All Participants | Oregon Ridge is the last place in the county where we don't have to yield to horses or dogs mountain bikes. Horse and bikes have the rest of the county to use. |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:48:55 | brian bernstein | All Participants | I would like to ask a question or two and make a comment as well,. Thank you. |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:51:42 | Molly Pickel | All Participants | oregonridgemasterplan@baltimorecountymd.gov |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:51:46 | Bob | All Participants | Has this plan considered connecting any other local green spaces through a green corridor? |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:51:52 | Molly Pickel | All Participants | https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/recreation/countyparks/mostpopular/oregonridgelodge/master-plan.html |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:52:22 | Chris Coleman | All Participants | I have a question or two, please |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:52:25 | Adreon Hubbard | All Participants | I would like to enter for the record, as a retired teacher, Maryland Master Naturalist, and birder, it's critically important to keep habitat preservation and sustainability in the forefront. My "WOW" factor is being in quite woods a |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:53:02 | Mary Glassman | All Participants | How will the Latino Conservation Week Event on July 17 be promoted in the county, and could a shuttle be provided as a one-time experiment from the Hunt Valley light rail station to the park on that day? |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:53:07 | Carol Schreter | All Participants | What does Rec and Parks mean when they speak of "the fields on Cuba Rd."? Language is important. When Rec and Parks speaks of fields, do they mean ball fields? Such as the Cuba Rd fields. When we environmentalists |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:53:34 | Shelly Hettelman | All Participants | Thanks so much for this presentation. I'm Shelly Hettelman, State Senator from District 11. Redistricting has moved the park into District 11. I just want to provide my contact info if anyone would like to reach out. I look forward |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:58:02 | Linda Davis | All Participants | Please keep bicycles off the trails and out of the forest. Bicycling and hiking do not mix. Biking degrades trails and causes erosion. |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:58:30 | Mahnaz Mazaheri Assadi | All Participants | How about socioeconomic impact assessment in par? |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:58:37 | Paul Henderson | All Participants | can you address the use of the pond at Oregon Ridge. Do you anticipate allowing swimming to begin again at the Oregon "Beach" area |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:59:03 | Jaron Shaul | All Participants | The notion that bikes cause more harm than boots is not supported by much scientific evidence. There's no such thing as a zero-impact trail. Mountain bikers show up in droves to help maintain trails. |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:59:45 | Joseph Millman | All Participants | Very well said Jaron - thank you and I agree that a dedicated mountain bike trail system would be new and add more recreational activities to our beautiful county. I love the multi modal idea around the park with entrances in |
| public | 2022-06-14 18:59:59 | Amanda Wray | All Participants | I would support educational programs about native plants (such as demonstration gardens), and mitigation for invasive organisms. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:00:02 | Linda Davis | All Participants | Please keep horses off the trails and out of the forest. Horses and hiking don't mix. Horse traffic causes erosion. Horses and high quality trout streams don't mix. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:00:27 | LocalRes | All Participants | Improved trail access and markings from the Lodge parking could improve its daily use, maybe more natural space activities might draw in more use to its area (eg native flower gardens, kid activities, etc) or beautification. It |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:01:33 | Linda Davis | All Participants | Please no mountain bike trails in the forest. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:01:39 | Keith Rosenstiel | All Participants | The MD Dept of the Environment recommends bridges over the streams on the Yellow Trail. Is this being considered? |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:01:52 | Jaron Shaul | All Participants | Why not some hiking only trails, and some "everyone" trails? |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:02:49 | k. patterson | All Participants | How is the Oregon Grille being addressed in the Master Plan? This is a historical building and land being rented from Baltimore County. It is also under new ownership. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:03:00 | LocalRes | All Participants | Separate biking paths would be a wonderful addition to the park. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:03:34 | Alex Waugh | All Participants | Re: Keith I believe some of the larger stream crossings on the yellow trail already have bridges, but they may require further assessment from the master plan. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:05:19 | Keith Rosenstiel | All Participants | Alex, there is only one poorly designed bridge, that is about to collapse, it was made by an Eagle Scout on top of an old log, but there are 4 crossings. So hikers must portage 3 crossings, damaging banks and streams. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:05:36 | Catherine Witt-Buccheri | All Participants | I'd like to 2nd the comments made by Jaron Shaul. Friends of Patapsco State Park has demonstrated a successful model for trail maintenance and coordination with all trail users. Mountain Biking provides another recreation |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:06:04 | Joanna Sales | All Participants | We should not lose sight that mountain biking provides an educational opportunity for our children. Several middle and high school teams exist and need a place to safely practice. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:07:16 | Johnston | All Participants | Please make an effort to reach casual users where they are using the park, e.g., hiking on trails, birding, etc. They may bypass parking lot popups. Especially important given that this core group's use and opinions have bee |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:07:31 | David ODell | All Participants | Please focus on the presentation. specific uses will be considered during this summer and into the fall |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:09:04 | Kathy Lambrow | All Participants | Will the Oregon Ridge Master Plan include any overlap with the Maryland Agricultural Center plans or programs? |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:11:03 | Donna D Neuworth | All Participants | I would be interested in any data captured on birders specifically. I would not underestimate this group as a major user of the park. Thanks |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:11:06 | Alex Waugh | All Participants | another park use that I don't believe was mentioned in the presentation, was archery. There is an archery target trail on the nature center side, that has a quite a large dedicated base of recurring users. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:11:58 | cynthia boyd | All Participants | Hi, I've been listening by phone. There may be other people by phone who would like to speak. I have now joined by computer. I would like to be in the queue as well. Thank you. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:12:11 | Peter Lev | All Participants | If you run multi-use trails through an FIDS area, is it still considered unbroken Forest Interior? Peter Lev |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:14:08 | Linda Davis | All Participants | Will the plan address the educational and research activities already happening in the Park and the impacts that additional activities will have on those activities? |

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| public | 2022-06-14 19:15:27 | debbie bacharach | All Participants | Are you looking at electricity power as part of infrastructure assessment? |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:16:34 | Joe Corcoran | All Participants | Baltimore Bird Club can give some numbers on usage |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:16:42 | Donna D Neuworth | All Participants | ebird calls Oregon Ridge one of the states "hotspots" for birding. Thanks |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:16:56 | Mahnaz Mazaheri Assadi | All Participants | Will you send us the recording. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:17:21 | Mary Glassman | All Participants | Will additional naturalists be hired to fill the need for educational field trips by schools? As a Green Center certified by the Maryland Association of Environmental and Outdoor Education, Oregon Ridge could offer more field t |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:18:13 | Mahnaz Mazaheri Assadi | All Participants | Thank you Elizabeth |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:20:22 | cynthia boyd | All Participants | My children have also participated in phenomenal field trips through Baltimore County Public Schools at Oregon Ridge. I suspect other schools use the park as well. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:22:17 | Alex Waugh | All Participants | Will the plan address the historical areas of the park, such as the iron forge, historical buildings, gravesites, etc? |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:23:12 | brian bernstein | All Participants | is it your goal to make this a "regional park"? |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:25:58 | cynthia boyd | All Participants | Thank you. |
| public | 2022-06-14 19:27:07 | Joseph Millman | All Participants | Great presentation. Thank you |